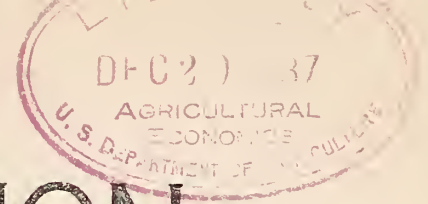


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FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.
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AN APPRAISAL OF RURAL SOCIOLOGY,
ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ITS TASKS

INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

The Division of Farm Population and Rural Life of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics devotes this issue of its quarterly publication to a report on "What Has Research in Rural Sociology Accomplished?", which is to be presented before the Rural Section of the American Sociological Society. To a considerable extent it was this Division which stimulated the appointment of the special committee making the report. As a regular part of its duties and field of work, the Division acts somewhat as a clearing house not only among the agencies doing rural social research but also between the whole field of rural social research and other research related to agriculture.

The opportunity to have a report formulated by a committee of outstanding rural sociologists and to have the report discussed by a great many other rural sociologists at an annual meeting, arose out of the Midwestern Conference on Population Research, held at the University of Missouri in May 1937. At that time, Dr. Carl C. Taylor, acting as Chairman of the Conference, appointed a committee to summarize the findings of the conference and asked that the committee give special attention to two things: first, outstanding contributions made by way of past researches in the field of rural sociology; and second, as clear a statement as possible of areas or fields or subjects which offered opportunity for fruitful research in the immediate future. Dr. Charles E. Lively of Ohio State University acted as chairman of this reporting committee, and the Midwestern Conference enthusiastically discussed the report of the committee when it was made.

Dr. George Von Tungeln of Iowa State College, Chairman of the Rural Sociology Section of the American Sociological Society, was present at the Midwestern Conference and suggested to Dr. Taylor that he would be glad to give one session of the annual meeting to a discussion of this same topic, and would be glad to have Dr. Taylor name the committee that would prepare a report in advance for that session. Dr. Lively, Chairman of the Midwestern Conference Committee, was named as chairman, and Dr. Lowry Nelson of the University of Minnesota and Dr. Dwight Sanderson of Cornell University were made the other two members of the Committee. These three men prepared the report which is presented here. This report will be discussed at the annual meeting on December 28 at Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Since all the work of the committee was accomplished by correspondence, and since the report has been prepared for the consideration of rural sociologists rather than for public consumption, it must be regarded as a tentative document, subject to revision after the appropriate discussion has occurred.

Many rural sociologists throughout the Nation will not be present at the meeting on December 28. The Division of Farm Population and Rural Life will therefore be glad to hear from those who find it impossible to be present at the meeting where this report will be discussed.

I. WHAT HAS RESEARCH IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY ACCOMPLISHED?

A. From the Scientific Point of Views*

Research in rural sociology conducted under the auspices of public research institutions has come of age. It is 22 years since the first research bulletin 1/ in this field was published by an agricultural experiment station, two years after the first textbook 2/ on rural sociology was published. It is fitting, therefore, that, as this profession enters its young manhood, it should survey what it has learned in its childhood and adolescence and what a record of its past behavior may indicate as to the promise for its future usefulness to the world as it becomes more mature.

Without attempting any definition of the field or objectives of Rural Sociology let us make a cursory examination of the more important contributions it has made to a scientific knowledge of rural society and their practical significance in showing means for rural improvement.

I. Spatial Pattern of Rural Society. First in historical order, and probably in significance, are the research studies on what may be termed the spatial pattern of rural society, its gross structure as related to spatial arrangement.

1. The Rural Community. First and most important was the pioneer study of C. J. Galpin 1/, who showed the interdependence of the village and its tributary territory in a relationship which has come to be known as the Rural Community. Galpin invented a method of delimiting community areas, which has been improved, and the nature of the relationships involved have been revealed by quantitative measurements by the studies of Kolb 3/ in Wisconsin, Sanderson 4/ in New York, Morgan 5/ in Missouri, Brunner 6/ in his studies of villages throughout the United States, and their assistants and collaborators. The concept of the rural community, which was fully analyzed in its historical and comparative aspects by Sanderson in his book "The Rural Community", has been and is being increasingly accepted by the general public. As a result, the thinking as to social objectives has been changed from the individualistic emphasis which characterized the pioneer heritage to a feeling of responsibility for maintaining community institutions and services which are essential for the common welfare. Thus the organization of consolidated rural school districts and the function and program of the school in relation to the community, the community relations and objectives of the church, the local units of farm organizations, and the possibility of more functional units of local government, have all been vitally affected by the results of these studies which have revealed the nature, structure and relationships of the rural community.

2. The Rural Neighborhood. Incidental to his study of the rural community Dr. Galpin became aware of the significance of the rural neighborhood and instigated a series of studies by Kolb 3/, Sanderson and Thompson 4/, Morgan 5/, and others, which have brought out the structure and function of the rural neighborhood and the tendency for it to decline

* Prepared by Dwight Sanderson

in importance as the rural community becomes better integrated. Important data on rural neighborhoods have also been contributed by Brunner 6/ and his colleagues in their studies of village areas. Little intensive study has, however, been given to rural neighborhoods in those areas of the South where they are still more important as units of social organization.

3. The Village These studies have shown that the village is the central nucleus of the rural community, and have incited research as to the social phenomena characteristic of the village in contrast to those of the open country. The role of the village in rural life has been the subject of extensive surveys of a sample of some 140 villages throughout the United States made by Dr. E. deS. Brunner and his collaborators, which have been twice repeated at six-year intervals (1924, 1930, 1936), and thus furnish the best body of knowledge concerning the changes in rural life in the last two decades. They have clearly shown an increasing tendency for rural society to center its institutions and activities in the villages, and that the larger villages are holding their position even though suffering in some respects from city competition. Other studies of the service agencies characteristic of villages of different size by Melvin 9/, of service relations by Kolb 83/, and of the changes in distribution and population of villages by Zimmerman 10/, Lively 11/, Landis 12/, and T. Lynn Smith 13/, have given a comprehensive picture of the place of the village throughout particular states.

4. Urbanization. Particularly in the industrialized areas of the Northeastern States there has been a movement of people from cities to the nearby open country which has introduced a new element into rural society in areas easily accessible to towns and cities by automobile. The social consequences of this new movement have been studied by Whetten and Devereux 14/ in Connecticut, and by Tate 15/ in New York, and reveal an intermingling of rural and urban interests which will doubtless increase in the future.

5. Culture Areas. Another larger spatial pattern of rural society is that of culture areas, whether larger regions or more limited sections, which are characterized by distinctive patterns of culture. Notable examples of descriptions of social characteristics of regions are those of Manny, Garnett, and Hooker 16/ of the Southern Appalachian Highlands, of Beck and Forster 17/ for regions with high rates of dependency, of the drought area by sociologists of B.A.E., R.A., and W.P.A. 18/, and of Odum and his collaborators for the South 19/. These studies have indicated the social problems which are characteristic of whole regions and the factors with which they are associated and which must be dealt with by any practicable plan for improvement. Recently Lively 20/ has been developing a technique for locating sections (counties or groups of counties) with more or less common cultural characteristics which make them desirable for the infiltration of clients of the Resettlement Administration.

The studies mentioned above have given a basic knowledge of the gross structure of rural society in its geographical relationships.

II. Rural Population. A second large field of research in which rural sociologists have done pioneer work is the study of the composition of rural society, the number and characteristics of the different classes of the rural population as revealed by Federal and State censuses. Not until 1920 did the Federal Census enumerate and publish the farm population separate from the rural nonfarm population by counties. By the special tabulation of unpublished census data Galpin and Larson 21/ did a pioneer work in making a rather complete tabulation of the characteristics of the farm population of eight representative counties, and showed what might be done in the analysis of the census data of the rural population as regards its more important characteristics.

Commencing with an analysis of the distribution, composition, and changes in rural population in New York State by Melvin 22/, similar studies have followed for ten States 23/, each of them giving information with regard to the growth or decline of different types of rural population, age and sex distribution, marital status, etc., which are of fundamental importance to administrative officers of all sorts in planning national, State, county, and local programs of work. For the Nation as a whole, the outstanding work of W. S. Thompson and O. E. Baker in the analysis of population trends and the social implications of differences of age and sex composition of rural and urban population, had its origin and motivation in the work of the former in rural sociology and of the latter in the study of the human geography of agriculture. Thus Thompson and his colleague P. K. Whelpton 24/ have become leading authorities on the future trend of population predicting a static population in the near future with all of its social and economic consequences, and they and Baker have shown the dependence of cities upon the countryside for replenishing their population and the debt which cities owe to the country for the nurture and education of an excess of farm children which makes this possible.

The amount of migration, to and fro, between farms and towns and cities is a matter of considerable importance in determining current trends in rural life. Long time trends may be determined by the decennial Federal censuses, but between census years the annual estimates made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics are the only source of information, and have been widely quoted and used for various purposes. Hamilton 27/ has studied the rural-urban migration in North Carolina for the past decade. The streams of migration of rural population from one State to another in succeeding decades have been mapped by Galpin and Manny 25/, and have been analyzed for New York by Anderson 26/ and for North Carolina by Hamilton 27/ with results which have attracted public interest.

The actual mobility of the rural population cannot be determined from census data and is a matter of considerable importance as affecting the support of rural institutions and the strength of social control of local groups. In Ohio, Lively 28/ made (1928) a field survey of the movement of open country families in four counties representative of dif-

ferent areas of Ohio which was repeated in 1935 29/. Other studies of mobility and migration have been made in several States 30/. Through the F.E.R.A., and later the B.A.E., R.A., and W.P.A., Lively, and Taeuber have stimulated similar studies in other States which are now in process of being prepared for publication, and which will have particular importance in showing the effect of the depression on mobility.

These analyses of rural population by the rural sociologists have been basic data for the new State and national planning boards and have been widely used by them; indeed, in some cases they have been the means of inaugurating such studies 31/. In brief, it is safe to say that our knowledge of the characteristics and trends of the rural population for particular States and counties has come chiefly from the work of the rural sociologists in analyzing and interpreting the data of the Federal censuses.

III. Rural Groups. Within the spatial pattern of rural society there are numerous groups. The description of these groups, their relationships and behavior, is the distinctive function of sociology.

1. The Rural Family. As the family is the primary group, its problems have incited research as to its standards of living and as to family relationships. Prior to the first study of Kirkpatrick 32/ practically nothing was known concerning the standard of living of farm families in this country, and our present knowledge of this subject has come chiefly from the work of rural sociologists, Zimmerman 33/, Lively 34/, Anderson 35/, Kirkpatrick 36/, and others, although recently much has been done by home economists. Much of the analysis of the standards of living by sociologists has been more economic than sociological, but the primary object has been to discover the cultural pattern of different classes of families and the relation of the immaterial to the material goods in the standard of life of the farm family. How the standard of living and relationships of the family characterize distinct culture patterns has been clearly brought out by Zimmerman and Frampton 37/ by contrasting the culture of the Ozark Mountaineers with that of New England mill villagers.

This whole movement has resulted in a new appreciation of the needs of the farm family and in redirecting the interest of the farmer toward using the improvement of the farm business as a means to better family living rather than as an end in itself.

The increasing number of divorces and the changing attitudes toward family relationships have incited research as to what factors produce stability and satisfaction in the farm family. A good beginning in developing methods of research in this field has been made by the studies of Foster 38/, Thurow 39/, Beers 40/, Kirkpatrick 41/, and Loomis 42/, but much remains to be done in perfecting techniques before an adequate body of data can be gathered from which generalizations can be made, although these studies have already produced important hypotheses which challenge further research. The facts so far obtained have been eagerly used by those engaged in parent education and child guidance, by educators, social workers and the rural clergy.

2. The Rural Church is the most important voluntary institution in rural society. The studies conducted by the late Warren H. Wilson, first of the role of the church in a rural community 43/, and followed by numerous surveys of rural churches in various areas 44/, led to the comprehensive surveys conducted under the Interchurch World Movement in 1920 45/, and under the Institute of Social and Religious Research during the next decade. Important studies of the rural church have been made in Virginia by Hamilton and Garnett 46/, in Missouri by Sneed and Ensminger 47/, in New York by Mather 48/, and in South Dakota by Kumlien 49/. These studies have produced information concerning the factors which affect the success of the rural church and have had a profound influence on the policies of denominational administrators and of both clergy and laity in redirecting the organization and program of local churches.

3. Special Interest Groups. Modern rural society is characterized by an increasing number of voluntary, special interest groups, such as parent-teacher associations, fraternal organizations, clubs of various sorts - literary, musical, athletic, etc. The number and variety of these groups, their relationships to each other, their leadership, and the factors influencing their birth, growth, decline and death, have been studied by Kolb and Wileden 50/ in Wisconsin. There have been too few intensive studies of particular kinds of organizations common in rural life, but outstanding examples of their practical value are shown by the work of Harris 51/, Duthie 52/, and Lindstrom 53/ on 4-H Clubs.

4. Farmers' Organizations. The distinctive Farmers' Organizations such as the Grange, the Farm Bureau, Farmers' Clubs, and Cooperative Associations, have also received too little investigation. Manny made a study of the Farm Bureau in Ohio 54/ and of cooperative marketing associations in the South, and Tetreau 55/ studied the Farm Bureau in California, and revealed social factors affecting their success or failure. Willson 56/ has also studied the role of farmers' clubs in North Dakota. These few studies have indicated that sociological analysis of the organizational setup, membership relations, leadership and social role of these farmers' organizations may contribute knowledge for their improvement.

IV. Social Services and Institutions. In addition to the various organizations and groups in rural society there are such services as those of health and recreation, and institutions such as the school and the library, which play important roles in its life.

1. Health. Studies of the availability and cost of medical care have been made in Ohio by Lively and Beck 57/, in New York by Sander-son 58/, and in South Dakota by Kumlien 59/, and of hospital facilities by Kolb 60/ in Wisconsin. These exploratory studies did much to reveal the needs for better rural health services and stimulated more extensive studies of the problems involved by public health services and private agencies.

2. Recreation. The growing interest in better recreation facilities in rural areas led to surveys of recreational facilities by Lively 61/ in Ohio, Morgan 62/ in Missouri, Frayser 63/ in South Carolina,

and Gardner 63a/ in West Virginia, and of community houses and their organization by Nason 64/, Lindstrom 65/ and others.

3. Schools. Although with the rapid development of rural high schools in the last quarter century the school has rapidly come to occupy a central place in rural life, there has been relatively little research concerning it by rural sociologists, possibly because so much has been done by students of rural education. Hayes 66/ made important studies of the place of the consolidated school in the Middle West and South, Kolb 60/ has studied the rural high school, and Kumlien 67/ has described its influence in South Dakota.

4. Libraries. The need of more public libraries for rural people led to surveys of the rural library facilities in Missouri 68/, Montana 69/, New York 70/, and South Dakota 71/, and for the United States by Nason 72/.

5. Needs of Rural Youth. On account of the increased number of older youth in rural communities resulting from the decreased migration to cities during the recent depression, there has been a demand for information as to what can be done to make life more satisfying for them. Studies of the activities and interests of rural youth have been made by Morgan 62/ in Missouri, Thurow 73/, Anderson 74/, and Kerns in New York, and Dennis 75/ in Pennsylvania. These have proved of practical value to extension workers, high school teachers, and various organizations concerned with youth problems.

V. Participation. The ultimate object of all social research is the making of better individual personalities. Sociological research has shown that individuals who do not have a normal amount of contacts with others in group life tend to be self-centered, dwarfed personalities who impede social progress. How the individual may be socialized through group contacts is a basic objective of sociological research. An important aspect of the study of group relations has, therefore, been that of determining the amount of participation of families and individuals in various groups, the factors affecting their participation, and the consequence to them and to society. Important contributions to the measurement and interpretation of social participation have been made by Hawthorn 76/, Hypes 77/, Fry 78/, Burt 79/, Geddes 80/, Kirkpatrick 41/, Lindstrom 81/, and others 82/. They all go to show that individuals, families, and communities which have a low index of participation in organized groups are backward and retard social progress, so that determining the index of social participation is a basic factor in the diagnosis of any social situation.

VI. Community Organization. Out of the study of the rural community and of the many groups, institutions and interests competing for public support within it, has come the desire for their better integration for advancing the common welfare, and the concept of community organization. Methods of community organization have been studied by Kolb 83/ in Wisconsin, by Hummel 84/ and Burt 85/ in Missouri, by Frame 86/ and Rapking 87/ in West Virginia, by Garnett 88/ in Virginia, and by others. Although no general formula for this process can be established, important

methods of procedure and of measuring progress have resulted from these investigations and have formed the basis of many programs of community improvement carried on by extension services, schools, churches, and other social agencies.

VII. Social Status. One of the chief factors affecting community organization and the whole pattern of rural society is that of social and economic status.

1. Tenancy. The economic aspects of tenancy have been extensively studied by the economists, but too little has been done to show the effect of tenancy on the family, rural institutions, and community life. Taylor and Zimmerman 89/ and Branson and Dickey 90/ made a pioneer study of the social aspects of tenancy in North Carolina; Hamilton and Williams and Wakefield 91/ have made recent studies of the amount of tenancy in that State; Woofter 92/ has recently investigated tenancy as related to the plantation system of the South; and Vance 93/ has shown the place and effect of tenancy in cotton culture. Although there are numerous comparisons of owners and tenants with regard to various social phenomena, there has been no general study of the social effects of tenancy in the Middle West.

2. Farm Labor. The social position of farm laborers has been practically neglected by rural sociologists and only recently have the problems of migratory labor on the Pacific Coast commenced to be studied at the instigation of relief agencies, and a report on this subject has been made by Landis 94/ for Washington, and several reports have been made on the situation in California. Paul Taylor has made some valuable studies of Mexican farm laborers in the Southwest as well as of migratory farm laborers. Recently the research in farm labor by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has devoted more attention to social and economic conditions of farm laborers and their families, their participation in the life of the community, and the extent to which farm laborers have tended to become a fixed class in agriculture. In cooperation with the W.P.A. and F.S.A. a number of field studies in various sections of the country have recently been completed, and more sociological studies of farm laborers and farm labor are under way.

3. Dependency. The recent depression also compelled the attention of rural sociologists to rural dependency, which had previously seemed of minor importance and which had been studied chiefly by the U.S. Children's Bureau and other social welfare agencies. With the unprecedented amount of rural dependency caused by the depression and drought, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration arranged with rural sociologists in many States for cooperative research and as a result there has been a large number of reports on the social and economic conditions and the personal factors affecting dependency issued by the F.E.R.A. and the W.P.A. 95/, agricultural experiment stations, and State relief administrations. The data obtained by these investigations have been invaluable as a basis for formulating policies of relief administrations and of the Resettlement Administration. These studies have been very

useful for the purposes of diagnosis and have shown that the sociologist is well equipped for investigating problems of dependency, but whether they have made any permanent contribution to a knowledge of the causes of dependency and means for its prevention and treatment, remains to be demonstrated.

VIII. Social Change. If Rural Sociology is to have predictive value it must study the processes of social change which have occurred in the past and those which are occurring today. The recent report of the President's Committee on Social Trends is an outstanding example of this sort of investigation. The volume on Rural Social Trends by Brunner and Kolb 96/ was particularly significant as they were able to compare the social surveys of villages and counties made at an interval of six to ten years, and this has since been carried further by a study of the changes in the same sample of villages which have occurred during the depression by a third survey in 1936 97/, and has very clearly indicated the importance of repeating such studies at stated intervals. The first research on rural social change made in this country was Williams' American Town, which has recently been brought up to date by Mather, Townsend, and Sanderson 98/. An important contribution to the effect of industrialization on social change in a rural county is the study of Allred 99/ in Sullivan County, Tennessee. The study of rural communities and neighborhoods in Walworth County, Wisconsin by Kolb and Polson 100/ and the repeated studies of Orange Township, Blackhawk County, Iowa, made by Von Tungeln 101/ and his associates, have given important data on change in rural conditions in the Middle West. What facts are available and what research is necessary to show the effects of the recent depression on rural life have recently been summarized by Sanderson 102/. More synthetic generalization of a considerable volume of data on social change found in various research bulletins of the sort made by J. M. Williams 103/ in his Our Rural Heritage and The Expansion of Rural Life, is desirable.

IX. Social Psychology of Rural Life. Although much has been done on the structure of rural society, we have had but little research on its dynamic aspect, on the social psychology of rural behavior, of how various groups, institutions, and forms of association behave and why they do so. The works of Williams, cited above, were a pioneer study in this field. A mere beginning has been made in the study of rural leadership 104/, and the same is true of farmers' attitudes 105/. Until more is known of what motivates and controls the behavior of rural society, rural sociology, whatever contribution it may make to a better insight into social relationships, will have a limited function in attempts to meet the many practical problems of rural social organization.

X. Retrospect and Outlook. Yet in spite of these limitations in its accomplishments, rural sociology has advanced far enough to block out rather clearly its field of usefulness, and the results of its research have already had a large influence -- even if indirectly -- on the policies and programs of national and State organizations and agencies -- governmental, religious, educational, professional, and economic, as well as on those of local communities and organizations. Furthermore, through

the teaching of this new knowledge of rural society, individuals are being given a better orientation to their rural social environment and are learning how they may modify it to meet their desires.

As it surveys the lessons of its youth rural sociology becomes increasingly aware that if it is to be of permanent value it must devote more attention to the discovery of those fundamental principles of sociology which will reveal those facts about rural society which are not evident to ordinary common sense observation, while at the same time it must demonstrate its utility by contributing factual data toward the solution of the immediate social problems which confront us as a result of maladjustments and the desire for the improvement of rural life.

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B. From the Extension Point of View*

An attempt was made to determine from extension workers, notably extension directors, what contribution they believe rural sociology has made to extension work. Replies were obtained from 22 States. These replies were from 24 rural sociologists, chiefly engaged in extension work, and 11 extension directors. In many States both the extension director and rural sociologist collaborated in the reply. Much interest in the inquiry was manifested, but an evident lack of familiarity with the published research in the field was manifested. Work done in other States seemed to be little known.

In answering the question, "What do you believe to be the most important contribution that rural sociology has made to agricultural extension work?", there was an evident tendency to regard rural sociology as a technique or limited area of activity, such as the group discussion method or work with the older youth group. In spite of this, however, this subject was regarded as a valuable addition to the extension list of offerings. The contributions in order of the frequency with which they were mentioned are as follows:

1. Emphasis upon the human values in agriculture - mentioned by more than half of the correspondents.
2. Contributions to extension technique arising out of interest in human values. Tends to shift emphasis from agricultural technology to family and community.
 - a. The community approach;
 - b. Planning with farm people rather than for them;
 - c. Use of the discussion method.

In replying to the question, "What do you believe to be the most important contribution that rural sociological research has made to agricultural extension work?", the correspondents tended to limit their comments to the contributions that research has made to extension work in rural sociology. The following contributions were mentioned in order of frequency:

1. Rural neighborhood and community studies - definitions and descriptions;
2. Rural Organizations and groups - special interest groups, youth studies, farm organizations;
3. Standard of living studies;
4. Population and migration studies;
5. Institutions such as church and school, 4-H Clubs, farm tenancy and labor, county buildings, etc.

Many research contributors listed are not ordinarily classified as rural sociologists.

* Abstracted from a report by A. F. Wileden.

II. PRESENT RESEARCH EMPHASIS IN RURAL SOCIOLOGY *

This report on present emphasis in rural social research is based upon information supplied by 25 workers in 22 States and the District of Columbia. While it is not a complete census of rural social research in the United States it does represent the major part of the work being sponsored by the Land Grant Colleges and Experiment Stations. At any rate the survey was sufficiently broad to provide a satisfactory index as to the fields being given consideration at the present time.

Each correspondent was asked to list the name of the projects he was carrying on, a statement of anticipated results, his own judgment as to the most significant project or projects, and the approximate amount of money independent of salaries which was being devoted to each project.

Classification of Projects

On the basis of the project titles, the writer has made the following classification:

I. Population

A. Composition, Changes and Prediction

Physical Defects of College Women Students
A Study of Changes in Farming Population in Iowa
Rural Population Changes in Washington
Social History of Population Changes
Arizona Population Trends
Annual Estimates of Farm Population in Ohio
Farm Population Estimates
Farm Population Changes
The Population of Louisiana, Its Composition and Changes
History of Montana Population Density and Distribution
Studies of Composition and Distribution of Farm Population

B. Mobility

Marriage Rates and Rates at Leaving Home of Rural Youth in Ohio
Study of Rural Population Mobility
Population Mobility in Montana
Rural Population Mobility in Arizona Irrigated Areas
Social Mobility in the Farming Occupation
Rural Population Mobility in Southeastern Missouri
Population Migration
Rural Youth and Agricultural Villages

* Prepared by Lowry Nelson

II. Social Organization

A. Generalized Studies

Rural Social Institutions in Washington
Factors of Determining the Effectiveness of Rural Organizations
in Selected Iowa Counties
Neighborhoods and Communities in the Lansing Region
The Social Organization of New York Rural Communities
A Study of Membership Relations in Gloucester County, N. J.
Organizations of Rural Communities
Community Adaptation to Population Changes
The Community and the Depression
Utah Farm Village Studies

B. Specific Institutional Studies

Farmers' Organizations
The Membership of Farmers' Organizations in New York State
Survey of County Youth Organizations in Ohio
Scope of 4-H Club Work can be Broadened to Include Improvement
of Personal Qualities
Sociological Factors Involved in the Methods and Results of
Agricultural Extension Work in Michigan Counties
High School Communities in Michigan
The Effects of an Organized Program of Adult Education and
Recreation on the Community Life and Social Participation
in Certain Rural Areas
Physical Facilities for Rural Institutions
The Content of Rural Weekly Newspapers and Community Development
Migration of Arizona Wealth by Inheritance

C. The Family and Living Standards

The Sociology of the Rural Family
The Rural Family and the Social Adjustment of its Members
Rural Standards of Living
Levels of Living of Farm Families in Missouri
An Exploratory Study of Farm Family Living in Colorado
The Standard of Living for Standard Loan Cases under the Farm
Security Administration in South Dakota
Standards of Living of Farm Families

III. Social Psychology

A Study in Rural Leadership
The Social Attitudes of Rural People

IV. Social Maladjustment in Rural Society

A. Dependency and Relief

1. Characteristics of Dependents
 - Studies of the Rural Relief Situation in Iowa
 - Studies of Rural Unemployment
 - Completion of Analysis of Relief Statistics
 - Cooperative Studies with WPA Division of Social Research
 - a. Education and Rural Relief in Colorado
 - b. Educational Testing of Children from Relief and Non-Relief Rural Households
 - c. Study of Public Assistance Extended to Households in Drought Areas
 - Relief in Rural Households in South Carolina
 - Study of Rural Families on Relief
 - The Rural Family on Relief
 - Relief in Massachusetts with Emphasis on Family Type
 - Survey of the Aged in South Dakota
 - Research in Social and Economic Factors Related to Old Age Assistance in Iowa
 - A Study of Historical and Sociological Influences Which Have Made the German-Russian of Colorado a Social Problem
 - Comparisons of Occupations and Conditions of Dwellings of Relief and Non-Relief in Pope County
 - An Analysis of 25 percent Sample of all Rehabilitation Cases in the State
 - An Analysis of the Relief Situation in Thirteen Sample Counties
2. Administration of Relief
 - The Administration of Public Relief in Selected Rural Counties in Michigan
 - Emergency Agency Expenditures in Montana
 - Rural Relief Trends in Wisconsin, 1934-1937
 - Rehabilitation Case Work.

B. Socio-Geographic Maladjustment

1. Analysis of Problem Areas
 - Rural Social Organization and Physical Resources
 - Rural Social Studies of the Drought Area
 - A Type-Study of Some Selected Social Aspects of Land Utilization in Weld County, Colorado
 - Extension of Problem Area Studies with Special Reference to Relief
 - The effect of Soil Depletion on Living Standards Studies
 - People Move to Poorer Land in Depression Years

Planimeter Measurement of Land-Use Areas on Maps Prepared by County Planning Boards and Preparation of Bar Graphs to Show Percentage of Each Area

2. Studies of Ameliorative Programs

Man-Land Adjustment, A Study of the Family and Inter-Family Aspects of Land Retirement in the Central Wisconsin Land Purchase Area

A Study of Beltrami Island Forest Reserve Resettlement Area Foreign Resettlement

Summarization and Presentation in Graphs and Tables of Program Planning Data Prepared by County Planning Boards in 1937

Analysis of Detailed A.A.A. data in Four Sample Counties and of State Summaries for All Counties, for Program Planning Collection, Tabulation and Presentation of Materials from Miscellaneous Sources; T.V.A. Soil Surveys, Aerial Photographs, State Planning Board Reports, Farm Management Studies, Sociological Surveys, Soil Conservation Service Demonstration Farms, and Farm Credit as Basis for County Program Planning

V. Social Aspects of Land Tenure

Social Aspects of Farm Tenancy

Farm Labor

The Farm Laborer

Farm Labor Requirements on Arizona Irrigated Farms

Study of Social Correlatives of Farm Tenure Status in Oklahoma

A Study of Leasing and Labor Arrangements in the Sugar Cane Producing Area of Louisiana

Social Aspects of the Plantation Tenant Economy

Hop Workers in the Yakima Valley, Washington

Occupational and Territorial Mobility of Farm Laborers in Washington

Transient Laborers in Selected Agricultural Industries in Michigan

A Study of the Economic Significance of Different Farm Leasing Systems

VI. Cultural Areas and Cultural Change

Rural Culture Areas

Studies of Suburbanization in Connecticut: Wilton, A Rural Town Near Metropolitan New York

Studies of Suburbanization in Connecticut: Norwich, An Industrial Part-Time Farming Area

Studies of Suburbanization in Connecticut: 1. Windsor, A Highly Developed Agricultural Area; (a) The Position of the Newcomer in the Suburban Community; (b) Population Mobility in a Suburban Town
Rural Cultural Areas in Missouri.

Methods of Growing Celery, an Index of Cultural Change Among
Hollanders in Michigan

Estimates of Replacement Requirements of Gainful Workers in Agri-
culture in Ohio from Death and Retirement, by Sub-Areas

Rural Societal Evolution in the Palouse Country of Eastern Washington

VII. Methodology

Sampling, Rural Areas

Numerically, the projects are distributed on the basis of this
classification as follows:

<u>Group and Sub-Group</u>	<u>Number</u>
I. Population	
A. Composition, Changes and Prediction	11
B. Mobility	8
II. Social Organization	
A. Generalized Studies	9
B. Specific Institutional Studies	10
C. The Family and Living Standards	7
III. Social Psychology	2
IV. Social Maladjustment in Rural Society	
A. Dependency and Relief	
1. Characteristics of Dependents	14
2. Administration of Relief	4
B. Socio-Geographic Maladjustment	
1. Analysis of Problem Areas	7
2. Studies of Ameliorative Programs	6
V. Social Aspects of Land Tenure	11
VI. Cultural Areas and Cultural Change	8
VII. Methodology	<u>1</u>
Total	98

Because of lack of uniformity in reporting funds being spent on various projects, it is practically impossible to use this item as an index of emphasis. Also, a number of those reporting indicated that funds were being used primarily for working up field data which had accumulated during recent years and therefore total funds were somewhat small even on projects which they rated highly.

The most that can be determined from the reports is the very logical conclusion that the larger amounts being spent are for those projects dealing with emergency programs, where subsidies are available on a somewhat generous basis. No distinction was made between funds available from Experiment Stations and those from Emergency agencies.

These responses indicate that workers are dominated in their choice of research projects by (a) local or regional problems, (b) by the special "laboratory" in which they work (the uniqueness of materials), (c) by the need of administrators for guidance in planning and administering programs, (d) by the worker's own interests. It may, of course be a combination of two or more of these apparent influences, or other considerations not apparent in the replies.

It is perhaps significant to note the relatively large number of projects in what we have herein called the "Social Aspects of Land Tenure." Eleven projects are reported, and out of the eleven, eight of them were given first rating. Equally interesting, if not significant, is the fact that only one out of 19 projects on population studies was rated first in significance. As might have been expected, studies of maladjustment are numerically most important. Problems of maladjustment became acute during the depression and drought, and attention naturally focused upon them. Moreover, emergency funds have been made available on a somewhat generous scale for promoting such studies.

Social psychological studies of rural people are receiving scant attention, as are also methodological studies - as such. Of course, methodology is a hardy perennial in its interest and importance, and receives rather constant attention from all investigators, although seldom are projects formally organized for its study.

The following tabulation shows the distribution by major categories of projects and the number in each group rated first in significance.

	<u>Total Projects</u>	<u>No. Rated First</u>
Population	19	1
Social Organization	26	11
Social Psychology	2	1
Social Maladjustment	31	7
Social Aspects of Land Tenure	11	8
Culture Areas and Culture Change	8	2
Methodology	1	

III. FUTURE NEEDS AND PROSPECTS *

One of the chief reasons for studying the past is the stimulation it provides for reflections upon the future. By means of such reflections man is often able to recognize desirable objectives and to organize his efforts to attain them. Rural sociologists are no exception to this generalization. Although they have been engaged in the task of rural sociological research. for a comparatively short time, on more than one occasion have they found it helpful to reflect upon the results accomplished and the nature of the task ahead. The trend of public affairs, public sentiment, public support, has a way of shifting sharply at times. During the recent short span of years covered by the economic depression previously accepted attitudes have been changed and new emphases have appeared in the realm of social thought. It is timely, therefore, to consider once again the current status of rural sociology as a body of social thought and as a technique of social investigation with a view to charting the course for the years immediately ahead.

Lessons from the Depression

One can scarcely reflect upon the happenings of the last seven years in the field of rural social thought and investigation without drawing certain conclusions of significance to rural sociologists. Some of these may be stated here:

1. Attempts to extricate agriculture and rural life from the depths of the depression were handicapped by a scarcity of basic sociological information concerning the rural population and its social organization. Publications were perused and sociologists were besieged with requests for pertinent information which up to that time had been regarded as either unimportant or too difficult to gather. Numerous research projects were hurriedly launched to meet this need and for a time administrative fact-finding took precedence over other types of research.

2. In the situation just described, rural sociologists proved themselves useful in collecting and supplying much of the social information desired about the rural population and rural life. Not only were they in possession of much useful information, but they were trained in the technique of collecting and analyzing sociological data. A sudden scarcity of trained personnel in this field developed and persisted for several years. The number of institutions conducting rural social research increased and the volume of published materials of a sociological nature was greatly augmented.

3. As a result of the depression, an attitude that is more favorable to rural sociological research has developed in many quarters. Institutions formerly doing nothing in this field have undertaken a modest program, while still others are now interested. There is now a keener appreciation of the necessity for some rural social planning. There is a

* Prepared by C. E. Lively

stronger conviction that rural leadership must deal increasingly with the human factors in agriculture along with factors of a technological nature. Hence, the trained person who is concerned primarily with the human factor in agriculture is now regarded with greater tolerance and understanding than ever before.

4. As a result of the attempt to grapple with the larger problems of agricultural and rural life adjustment during the last few years, major effort in rural social research has been diverted from more purely local studies toward the analysis of the larger problems of State and Nation. Projects have been enlarged in geographic scope and in volume of data collected. More attention has been paid to sampling procedure with a view to determining the range of validity of any conclusions drawn. Some regional and interstate research has been attempted. Thus, the trend of affairs has compelled rural sociologists to look at the gross picture of rural life in these United States and to concern themselves with major adjustments in the larger arena of State and Nation.

As one reflects upon the meeting of the events and trends just cited, certain conclusions appear to be warranted.

1. Rural social planning is now upon us. The Nation has embarked upon a long-time program of agricultural adjustment and reorganization which will probably take us far from the scene of 1930. We have undertaken the problem of reorganizing agriculture so as to bring greater benefit to both the rural and urban populations. Such a program is far reaching in its import, and much factual information is essential to its successful promotion. As the program gets under way, increasing need for sociological data is likely to be felt, and rural sociologists must be able to meet that need.

2. Owing to the growing emphasis upon rural social planning and the disposition to tackle the larger problems of agricultural and rural-life adjustment, the time has probably passed when major emphasis should be placed upon small, discreet research projects which are chiefly of local significance. Such studies have been useful in the past. They are still useful for exploratory purposes and to meet the needs of local situations. But if we are to lay the research foundations for a broad program of rural life improvement such as is now indicated, we must broaden many of our projects and we must define more carefully the limits within which the conclusions apply. This suggests a thorough knowledge of the social and cultural geography of rural life as prerequisite to sampling procedure.

3. It seems reasonable to suggest that if rural sociologists are to be found useful in time of depression and social crisis, they must prepare diligently in times of prosperity. This implies a long-time program of fundamental research as contrasted with short-run administrative research. Social research is like all research with respect to the time required to do it. To dig deeply into the mysteries of any subject worthy of research is time-consuming. It cannot be done in the face of impending crisis. This is why Charles F. Kettering makes the statement that "if we wait to do research until it is needed, it is too late to do it."

It is not intended to imply that short-time, so-called "practical" research is of no value. Such a program is often essential, generally advisable, and should be geared into the local situation. Such research has been aptly styled "administrative fact-finding" for it is generally undertaken for the purpose of assisting in the development of some administrative policy or the promotion of some organized program. The demand for this type of social research ebbs and flows with the tide of economic and social conditions. In times of depression or crisis, the demand reaches its maximum. At such times, the sociologist is most fortunate if he can bring to bear both the results of quick administrative fact-finding and the fruits of long-time fundamental research upon current problems, for it is only when this is done that he can speak with some confidence about solutions.

Areas of Research Emphasis

The field of rural sociology is a large one and its scope is imperfectly understood by many people. With the practical problems of agricultural adjustment and rural life improvement on the one hand and the categories and concepts of theoretical sociology on the other, it may not always be clear as to where and in what manner rural sociological research can be conducted to best advantage. To harmonize this apparent discrepancy is one of the tasks of this report.

The problem of the proper research emphasis in rural sociology raises at once the entire question concerning the scope and purpose of the subject itself. Believing that academic definitions are of little value in a dynamic situation, an examination of the record has been made in the hope of finding an answer to this question. The review of past and current research presented in the first two parts of this report was undertaken for the purpose of appraising the work of the last 25 years and formulating some judgment of its significance. Scarcely anyone who reads this summary will be likely to escape the conviction that rural sociology is on its way.

Perhaps the most important contribution of this summary of past research is the clarity with which it sets forth the general framework upon which this research has been organized. This framework demonstrates more effectively than any formal definition could what rural sociologists have been trying to do. A classification of the 142 references cited shows 75 percent to be in the general field of social organization, broadly defined, 16 percent in population, 6 percent in social psychology, while 3 percent deals with social change and social trends. Such a classification obviously does not indicate the division of effort according to these categories since it is based upon titles merely; yet all of the titles are regarded as important pieces of research accomplished, and, hence, such a classification does show in a significant way the direction in which rural sociological research has been moving.

Similar findings are reported in the brief survey of current research incorporated in Part II of this report. Of a total of 98 projects

reported as now under way, 69 percent fall in the general field of social organization, broadly defined, 19 percent in population, 2 percent in social psychology, while 10 percent are of a miscellaneous nature. Apparently current research is following the pattern of the last 25 years rather closely.

The picture outlined by past and present performance becomes more impressive when statements of research needs for the immediate future are classified and added to the list. A number of leading rural sociologists contributed their views and those of their immediate colleagues for this purpose. Because of the divergent manner in which they were expressed, these statements were somewhat difficult to classify, but perhaps no violence has been done. A total of 66 projects or types of research were suggested. Of these 69 percent fall in the general area of social organization, broadly defined, 19 percent deal with population, and 12 percent with social psychology. Ranking first among the new topics suggested for emphasis is that of culture areas. Interest here extends both to subareas within the State and to larger areas or regions. Social interaction, dynamic studies of rural social psychology, and the social processes involved in social change and trends are also mentioned. Familiar topics suggested for additional emphasis include the disadvantaged classes, particularly farm laborers, the social effects of tenancy, and youth groups. There is also some interest in the historical study of communities patterned after Middletown and Williams' An American Town.

The implications of this three-fold classification appear to be clear. Over a period of years, rural sociology has been finding its place and defining its field by the process of accretion. With greater certainty than before, it is possible to say (1) that the objective of rural sociology is rural welfare; (2) its subject matter is the social relationships and culture of rural people; (3) the area of work is rural social organization, including any and all forms of human relationship and institutions that are or may be employed to further the interests and welfare of rural people.

It is a commonplace thing to say that the objective of rural sociology is rural welfare. That the approach of rural sociology has ever been that of the relationships of people as contrasted with their technologies, - soil, animals, machines, - scarcely requires comment. But the statement that the area of work in rural sociology is that of rural social organization requires some amplification. The term "social organization" may be either broadly or narrowly defined. As used here the broad definition is indicated. The term is taken to refer to those social structures, conditions, and processes that are involved in building up and maintaining a satisfactory rural social order. Social disorganization and maladjustments are as much part and parcel of the concept as the more orderly processes of organization. The content of the term is suggested in the outline of research accomplished as presented in Part I of this report. The following outline represents the sort of framework that characterizes the content of rural sociology today:

I. Population

1. Numbers, distribution, changes, predictions
2. Composition and characteristics
3. Vital characteristics
4. Mobility

II. Social Organization, Disorganization and Maladjustment

A. The Spatial Pattern of Rural Society

1. Culture areas
2. The neighborhood, village, and community
3. Urbanization

B. Rural Groups

1. The family and other primary groups
2. Special interest groups, including farmers' organizations
3. Class groups, such as youth
4. Culture groups

C. Institutions and Service Agencies

1. Schools
2. Churches
3. Health agencies
4. Recreation
5. Economic institutions

D. Social Status and Maladjustments

1. Tenancy
2. Farm labor
3. Dependency

E. Social Participation

F. Social Change and Trends

G. Social Processes

III. Social Psychology

1. The determination and measurement of attitudes
2. The psychology of social interaction
3. The psychological aspects of Section II above.

A word about population research. Population is the basis of social organization. Its changes and trends profoundly affect any social structure. The rural sociologist is not interested in population because of its intrinsic value. His chief research interest is not population itself but the relation of population to social organization and social processes. Because of this close relationship, however, he is equipped to do population research and often finds it necessary and advisable to make such studies as foundation work for studies of rural social organization.

Critics of this report may urge that too much has been placed under the general head of social organization, disorganization, and maladjustment. This has been done deliberately, for the time has arrived when principles of unification are more important than principles of divergence. Too many categories lead to confusion and prevent the sociologist from making clear

to the laity what it is that he is trying to do. From this point of view there are some grounds for placing both population and social psychology under the head of social organization. But population research is not peculiar to sociology. Neither is social psychology. There are certain aspects of both which are of doubtful interest to sociologists. The same cannot be said for social organization, however, if this field is to be exploited as an area of scientific research, apparently the sociologists must do it.

It may be of interest to suggest that the above classification of the field of rural sociology is not expressed in terms which the layman can readily understand. In view of the evident confusion regarding the nature of the subject, perhaps some more popular expression of its content is desirable. No final proposal for such a classification is proposed, but it is suggested that Population, The Family and the Community be taken as the main points of emphasis.

Defining a subject in terms of past performance and present emphasis is beset with difficulties. It may be objected that the future need bears no close relation to the past in this respect. This may be true. In spite of that, it is well for rural sociologists to realize that they have already charted a course and laid down a beaten path. Furthermore, that course leads in the general direction that sociologists generally have agreed to be the proper course. In the future, there will undoubtedly be deviations arising from new emphases. By-paths may appear. It will be little short of surprising, however, if the general course undergoes drastic change. Rather, the beaten path will probably tend to become a broad highway, with less meandering as time passes.

One point further. A general outline of the content of rural sociology is not a statement of projects. Neither is it a statement of timely or strategic areas for research. It must be recognized that a statement of problems needing investigation today may cut across many or all of the categories submitted in the above outline. The one is life as it is lived; the other is academic and conceptual. A well considered outline of timely areas for research during the immediate future should include the following:

1. Cultural areas, such as regions and subregions. These are essential to sound sampling and rural planning. Comprehensive data should be assembled on a county basis for comparative purposes and for use in planning. Special attention should be given to problem areas.
2. The disadvantaged classes in rural life and agriculture. This includes tenants, laborers, low income farmers, people on poor land. What are the social problems arising from these groups? What are the social aspects of tenancy and of farm labor?
3. Studies of differential population growth, fertility, and migration. These should be studied in relation to the occurrence of economic opportunity and social significance.

4. Studies of rural youth, their needs, opportunities, and organizations.
5. Studies of community integration and community processes. These are very much needed to point the way in community planning.
6. Studies of standards and planes of living particularly from the standpoint of improving present techniques.
7. Studies of farmers' organizations and special interest groups.
8. Historical studies of the life and institutions of an area. These should be made of typical areas for purposes of better interpretation of social trends. Repeated studies of the same areas or subjects tend to accomplish the same purpose.
9. The social psychology of leadership.
10. Studies of the nature and significance of rural attitudes and methods of changing them.
11. Extension of standard studies to new areas for comparative purposes. For example, studies of special interest groups.

In addition to the above points, it may be well to emphasize that greater standardization of many projects is desirable for the purpose of obtaining comparable results. Small field studies bearing upon a given problem but done by one method in one small area and by a different method in another area are convincing to no one.

Finally, rural sociologists must begin to think seriously of making studies of the significance, the strength and weakness, of the accumulated results of their research efforts. Gathering field data and writing experiment station bulletins is not the end of research. As the fruits of such effort accumulate, they must be compared, criticized, and integrated. Only in this manner shall we achieve a coherent body of scientific results and only in this manner can we discover the weaknesses of our work and fill the gaps wherein significant contributions are lacking.

FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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RESEARCH REPORTS

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Disadvantaged Classes in American Agriculture

More than one out of four rural families in the United States have received public assistance at some time during the depression. The need for relief has been occasioned by drought and other distress, by loss of supplementary employment, and by changes in agriculture and industry beyond the control of the individual. The condition of these persons makes it clear that large segments of our agricultural population have long been living in what may be classified as rural slums, and that a resumption of prosperity for commercial agriculture and of industrial employment will not in itself solve the problems for these disadvantaged farm families. In 1929 more than one-fourth of the families produced less than \$600 worth of products, including those used by the farm family; more than one-half million farms are on land that is so poor that the families cannot make a living from it; at least one-third of the farm families of the Nation are living on standards of living below those required to maintain health and decency. More than a million farm families move from one farm to another each year. Certainly a great majority of the 2,700,000 farm laborers (1930) and the 2,865,000 tenant families (1935) are disadvantaged in living or working conditions or both.

"Disadvantaged Classes in American Agriculture", a forthcoming bulletin in the Social Research Series, is a conscious attempt to portray the dark side of the agricultural scene in America, and to call attention to areas in which such facts as those above have reduced farm families to levels of living below those ordinarily considered as acceptable. It is a panoramic presentation of the chronic sore spots in American rural life. Discussion is focused about a series of maps which show the areas within which disadvantaged farm families are concentrated. The major groups described are low income farm families, farm laborers and tenants, families living on poor lands, families who migrate, farm families on relief and rehabilitation, and farm families with low standards of living. Within each group, those who are most disadvantaged and the circumstances leading to their present conditions are described. The bulletin summarizes much of the available information and is intended primarily to stimulate interest in further research concerning the conditions described, and in measures to alleviate the distress of disadvantaged farm families.

"Disadvantaged Classes in American Agriculture",
Carl C. Taylor, Helen W. Wheeler, and E. L. Kirkpatrick,
Social Research Report No. VIII, U.S.D A.,
Washington, D. C., April 1938.

Social Status and Farm Tenure

Farm ownership appears as a desirable status to farm owners, both from a business and a social point of view, and farmers who are not owners share this opinion and hope eventually to become owners. This was true among farmers in the Corn and Cotton Belts, both white and Negro, as reported in a study recently published by the Farm Security Administration. It was found that although white and Negro tenants, croppers, and laborers said that they hoped to become farm owners, only a small proportion of them thought that their chances of becoming farm owners during the next five years were good.

The persons in the several tenure groups had considerably different ideas about the conditions under which they might acquire ownership, and the size of farms they wished to own. It seemed that those non-owners who were better off expected more favorable terms and larger farms, than did those who were less well off. This is indicated by the interest rates considered as fair if loans should be made to help them become owners. The average rate given by northern renters and laborers was 4.5 percent, among whites in the South it was about 5 percent, and among Negro tenants, sharecroppers and laborers it was about 6.2 percent. In the North the proportion who reported that 6-8 percent would be fair was less than that among Negroes who thought that 9 percent would be a fair rate. Most of the farmers interviewed thought the government ought to do something to aid tenants in becoming owners, improved credit being the favored suggestion.

Most farmers believed in farming as an occupation and over one-third expressed the hope that their sons would be farmers. They also believed that the son should be willing to make some sacrifices in order to achieve farm ownership, and more than half thought the government ought to assist the son toward this goal.

That tenure status plays an important role in social life in agricultural areas is shown by the differences in participation in formal organizations, the extent to which visiting and sharing meals tends to be with members of the same tenure group, and the fact that the largest proportion of farmers and their married sons had found their marriage partners in families who were in the same tenure groups as themselves.

These are some of the findings of a study of attitudes and social conditions of Corn Belt and Cotton Belt farmers which has been completed recently. The investigation was projected upon the assumption that effective and successful assistance to farm families in the lower tenure status should be based as much upon the attitudes and aspirations of the family to be assisted as upon the character of the land or the particular tenure contract. It does present a faithful picture of what these people think of their own status, of the status of others around them, and of the prospects for improving their conditions in life.

"Social Status and Farm Tenure - Attitudes and Social Conditions of Corn Belt and Cotton Belt Farmers", E. A. Schuler, Social Research Report No. IV, U.S.D.A., Washington, D. C. April 1938.

Part-Time Farming Appraised

An appraisal of the extent to which part-time farming might be used in a rehabilitation program as a means of keeping needy rural families off relief or of removing them from the relief rolls is contained in a report on Part-Time Farming in the Southeast issued by the Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration.

The survey is based on the farming activities of 1,113 industrial workers in 5 major industrial areas of South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama. The purpose of the survey was to determine the possibilities for further development of desirable farming-industrial combinations in the Southeast as a means of improving living conditions and increasing economic security.

The report emphasizes the fact that part-time farming as an activity can be encouraged only where industry has "sufficiently recovered from the depression to offer satisfactory wages and hours to its workers or where future prospects for an industry's development are promising." Hence, the study makes no blanket endorsement for developing or extending present part-time farming or for encouraging new part-time farming enterprises.

"Naturally, part-time farming cannot be considered an economic 'way out' for families on relief," the report states, "although a part-time farm, coupled with a small cash wage, would alleviate the acute distress of many families now on relief."

Instruction in improved farming methods and in every phase of farm operation from planting to preservation of the product is needed throughout the Southeast, according to the report. Assistance by educational agencies will result in more consistent production of food and of a varied diet.

Few of the 1,113 part-time farmers surveyed took advantage of the long growing season throughout the Eastern Cotton Belt. Most part-time farm families were unfamiliar with winter vegetables and few produced fruit. Instruction in the relative values of crops is also greatly needed.

Part-time farms in all parts of the Eastern Cotton Belt were found to be small, and the enterprises were conducted mainly to produce food for home consumption. Most of the farms surveyed had less than 5 acres of crop land, and almost half of them less than 2 acres. The small acreage was found sufficient, however, for the farm to produce a definite contribution to the family living -- not only fresher and more abundant products, but also a monetary saving in grocery bills during the summer months that ranged from a few dollars to as much as \$20 per month. While most of the part-time farmers kept a cow, a hog or two, and a flock of chickens, the survey found a vegetable garden the most general activity.

The part-time farmers' investment in farm buildings and land was small, amounting to less than \$2,000 in over one-half of the cases surveyed. Only a few of the farmers had holdings valued at more than \$5,000, and these were commercial farmers, for the most part, who produced some cash crop for the market. Investment in machinery and farm implements was negligible, and, in most cases, only part-time farmers operating 10 acres of land or more owned horses or mules.

In none of the major industries of the Southeast, with the possible exception of coal and iron mining in Alabama, was the labor involved so heavy as to discourage the additional work required by a part-time farm enterprise. From April through August, from 3 to 5½ hours a day were required in farm work on the noncommercial part-time farms of white operators. The farm tasks were usually shared by members of the family, although in some cases the head of the family did all of the work.

Some industries in the Southeast were found to be better adapted to a combination with part-time farming than were others, although none gave any promise of a marked increase in employment.

Part-Time Farming in the Southeast by R. H. Allen, L. S. Cottrell, Jr., W. W. Troxell, Harriet L. Herring, and A. D. Edwards, Research Monograph IX, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, 1937, 317 pp.

Rural Youth on Relief

The need for continuing government assistance to rural youth who matured during the depression is emphasized in the monograph, Rural Youth on Relief, which has just been completed by the Division of Social Research of the Works Progress Administration. According to the report, there were approximately 625,000 youth in rural relief families in October 1935, when agriculture was well on the way to recovery. If to this number are added the rural youth who were being directly assisted through the Civilian Conservation Corps and those in families being helped by the Works Progress Administration and the Resettlement Administration, the total youth in families receiving public assistance would include approximately 10 percent of all rural youth in the United States. However, the proportion which youth formed of the rural relief population in the sample in October 1935 was below that which youth formed of the total rural population in the United States, indicating that rural youth as a whole were under-represented on relief.

Many of the young people on relief were found to have family responsibilities, either because they were married or because they had had to assume the responsibility for the parental household. Almost one-fourth of the young men were heads of households; the proportion who were heads of households was slightly larger in the villages than in the open country.

Very few rural youth on relief, 20 years of age or over, were in school, and among the youth in school there were proportionately more young women than young men. A smaller percentage of relief youth than of all youth was attending school. A considerable proportion of the relief youth in school was retarded, particularly in the open country.

Agriculture was employing more rural relief youth in 1935 than any other occupation. Also, agriculture was the usual occupation for more youth than any other occupation, but the experience was usually limited to farm labor. Outside of agriculture the most common usual occupation was unskilled labor.

Of the young men who were out of school, 45 percent were classed as employed. This percentage did not vary greatly by age groups, but more than twice as many of those in the open country as in the villages were employed. Employment in the open country was primarily at farm labor, usually on the home farm, and brought little return. Very few out-of-school young women were employed, the highest proportion being 13 percent of the 16- and 17-year olds.

All of the Federal emergency agencies that have given direct or indirect aid to youth in relief families have functioned under limitations which have prevented any long-time approach to the problem of rural youth, the report emphasizes. Because the benefits of emergency programs have been restricted largely to youth on relief, a vast number of young people in marginal families not on relief rolls in rural areas have been overlooked. In some areas the number in this category probably equals, if it does not outnumber, youth whose families have been recipients of public relief.

Amelioration of the conditions facing rural youth must come through enhancement of economic opportunities and through improvement in facilities for education. Furthermore, assistance through these two methods should be coordinated and carried out on a national scale under a long-range stabilized program. Assistance for rural youth on relief is not enough; prevention of the need for relief is far more important. Young men farming on submarginal or worn-out land are condemned to poverty. The upward trend of farm prices may increase the gross farm income of the Nation, but it must be remembered that youth in low-income rural families may not be participating in the benefits of a recovery measured only in terms of total figures.

Rural Youth on Relief by Bruce L. Melvin,
Research Monograph XI, Division of Social
Research, Works Progress Administration,
1937, 112 pp.

Coffee County, Alabama

The program of the Farm Security Administration in Coffee County, Alabama, required the collection of certain social and population data in that county. The report summarizing the findings of this study and making recommendations on the basis of these findings has been issued as Social Research Report No. VI.

The report finds that there is a rather sharp difference between the patterns of social behavior and social relationships in the best and good farm lands, on the one hand, and in the fair and poor farm lands on the other. In the poorer areas transportation facilities have been only poorly developed and the older neighborhood types of association still tend to prevail. Local schools, churches, trade centers, cross roads stores, singing societies and the like serve relatively small clusters of families. In the better land areas these neighborhood types of organization have tended to give way to larger community clusters, many of them concentrated in and dominated by the large trade centers of the county.

Population in the poorer land areas of the county has been slowly diminishing for a number of decades, and the major growth within the county in recent times has been in the fair and good land areas, primarily near the larger trade centers.

"A Basis for Social Planning in Coffee County, Alabama", Karl Shafer, Social Research Report No. VI, F.S.A. and B.A.E., U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., Dec. 1937, 48 pp.

Living Conditions in Four Appalachian Counties

Farm population and the number of farms increased sharply between 1930 and 1935 in Morgan and Magoffin Counties, Kentucky, and Avery and Haywood Counties, North Carolina, typical areas in the Southern Appalachians. But there was little or no concomitant expansion in agricultural acreage, in fact one of the counties had fewer acres in cultivated crops at the end of the period than at the beginning. Land and buildings declined sharply in value; there was a general decline in produce prices, and supplemental non-farm incomes largely disappeared. The forests and the mines have failed, causing economic distress in at least three of the counties. In 1934, less than half of the farm operators in three of the counties and only one-fourth in the other had any opportunity to earn supplemental incomes, such as were formerly available from the development of local natural resources.

In spite of the rough terrain and the frequently poor and thin top soil, these four Appalachian counties are largely devoted to farming. The recent increase in farm population is only in part accounted for by

a-back-to-the land movement. One-fourth to one-third of the new farmers were farmers' sons who, upon reaching maturity, had adopted agriculture as their vocation. Some of the others were persons who had previously depended on nonfarm incomes and were farming largely as a stop-gap measure, pending the revival of industry.

A detailed analysis for each county is included in the report.

"Living Conditions and Population Migration
in Four Appalachian Counties", L. S. Dodson,
Social Research Report No. III, U. S. Dept.
of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., Oct. 1937,
152 pp.

Rich Land - Poor People

Living conditions on the fertile lands of the Missouri Lowlands which include the seven southeastern counties of Missouri refute the theory that a region of rich agricultural lands will always be populated by healthy, happy farm people living in security and enjoying the benefits of a rich community life, according to a report of the Farm Security Administration, Region III. This report, dealing with a one-crop area points out that "as the crop share and wage rate are low and the work season is limited there has evolved a quasi-feudal system in which the mass of the farmers are dependent upon and subservient to the landowners. Low and insecure levels of living, illiteracy, superstition, resentment, malnutrition and disease are the rule. The long seasons of unemployment, with the attendant economic uncertainty, result in a dissatisfaction with the present and a marked fear of the future among share-croppers, laborers, and the less thrifty renters. The primary concern of those in the ascendancy is usually the immediate profits to be derived from the land, rather than its conservation or the well-being of the people who work it."

The farm population of the area is characterized by a high proportion of native-born people, large numbers of Negroes, large families, high fertility, high ratio of males to females, a high rate of illiteracy, malnutrition, high mortality and morbidity rates, and a lack of social participation. There is little stability of residence. According to the Census of Agriculture in 1935, 43 percent of the tenants, including sharecroppers, had been on their present farms less than one year.

Low incomes, houses which are little more than shacks, meager and ill-balanced diets, malnutrition and disease common, a school system of a multiplicity of one-room school districts with poorly trained and low-paid teachers, Negro schools which are distinctly inferior, are all elements in a social system in which "the lower income groups are at a distinct disadvantage in such things as rights in contract, the facilities in health service, in housing, in education, and in their rights before the law."

Neither tenants nor landowners are receiving the full benefits which might result from their contractual relationships. Both are victims of a system of land tenure which destroys land and people. The establishment of more equitable ownership arrangements, educational and demonstration programs, legislation to control speculation in land and some governmental regulation of land use are among the measures that must be taken "if the population is to receive the benefits of the rich fertile soil on which they reside.... The paradox of rich land and poor people is a direct challenge to establish State and Federal agencies designed to promote a better rural life."

"Rich Land - Poor People", Max R. White,
Douglas Ensminger, and Cecil L. Gregory,
Research Report No. 1, Farm Security Admin-
istration, Indianapolis, Ind., January 1938.

Family Living on Poorer and Better Soil

Soil fertility is only one of the factors which determine the level of living in any area. This is the conclusion of a study of 500 families, equally divided among white and Negro, and among residents of poorer soil areas, classified as submarginal for agriculture, and those of better soil areas in the same three counties in Mississippi. The effect of differences in fertility of the soil were not the same for white and Negro families. White families in the more fertile areas were more frequently landowners and had more schooling. In the case of both white and Negro families, those on better soil had larger cash incomes and derived relatively more of their income from the farm than those on poorer soil; cash expenditures for family living were also greater among the former. White farm families on better soil produced a more nearly adequate food supply than those on poorer soil. Both groups exceeded Negro families in this respect, but among the latter those on the poorer soil produced a somewhat more adequate food supply than those on better soil.

Negro families on poorer soil were more often landowners, had more schooling, more often had a water supply on the farm, more often had labor-saving equipment, more often subscribed to periodicals, and spent more on the education of their children than Negro families on more productive soil.

Gross cash incomes for white families during 1934 were about \$600, while those for Negro families were about \$300. There was a greater difference in the gross cash income of white families on the two soil areas than of Negro families. White farm families on poorer soil netted only \$36.19 from their farm operation, Negro families on poorer soil \$88.66, white families on better soil \$255.84, and Negro families on better soil \$131.93. However, a number of white families on poorer soil had nonfarm income.

"Family Living on Poorer and Better Soil", Dorothy
Dickins, Miss. Agric. Exp. Sta. Bull. No. 320,
State College, Miss., Sept. 1937, 46 pp.

Rural Social Sub-Areas of Ohio

Planning for the agriculture of a State or of the Nation necessarily involves planning for the welfare of the people who live upon the farms. Planning for the social welfare of farm people requires an intimate knowledge of the rural social organization and the various social and economic factors that affect welfare.

A true region, or sub-region, is an area in which natural and demographic factors and historical circumstances have contributed to the development of a homogeneous economic and social structure. Such areas provide a sound basis for sampling for research studies, for the determination of sound policies and programs for improvement and for education.

The approach in this study assumes that general social and economic characteristics hang together and that it is therefore unnecessary to comprehend all traits in their multiplicity; furthermore, that there is no constant relationship between soil and type of agriculture and social and economic traits.

As a result of a detailed study of the interrelationships of available social and economic factors, three were selected as a basis for defining regions within the State: Gross Cash Income per Farm, Rural Plane of Living Index, and Rural Population Fertility Ratio. On the basis of these factors the State of Ohio is divided into six sub-regions.

The authors comment on the practical significance of their work in selecting areas for denser settlement. They say, "...maximum opportunity should occur in an area where (1) the soil is good, (2) the population already there is making a good living as evidenced by high income per capita and high plane of living, (3) the area is not overpopulated as evidenced by high acreage of farm land per capita, type of farming considered, (4) the resident population is stationary or possesses a low rate of natural increase, and (5) the area suffers heavy loss from emigration. While these conditions are scarcely ever met in their purity, approximations to them can be readily found."

"A Method of Determining Rural Social Sub-Areas with Application to Ohio", C. E. Lively and R. B. Almack, Part I, Texts and Maps, Part II Supplementary Statistics and Notes on Methodology. Ohio Agric. Exp. Sta. Mimeo. Bull. No. 106, Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 1938.

Rural Population Mobility in South Dakota

Three-fourths of the open country population and two-thirds of the village households found in six South Dakota counties as of January 1, 1935 had not moved during the preceding seven years. Those who had

made a change of residence moved only a short distance, more than 80 percent moving only within the State and nearly half moving only within the county of survey. The relative stability of this rural population is further evidenced by the fact that more than one-half of the adults in each of the three older counties studied had been reared in the county of survey. Open country households which moved went shorter distances than village households which moved.

Half of the adult children who had left open country households were living in the same county as their parents, but only two-fifths of the adult children of village households were still living in the same county as their parents. The proportion of adult children who had left their parental homes was greater in village than in open country households. There was virtually no movement back to the parental homes between 1929 and 1935, but during the depression years there was a continued migration away from these rural households. The more recent migrants traveled about the same distances as those who had left home earlier. There was, however, a slight decrease in the proportion who settled in the open country in recent years, migrations being somewhat more frequent to villages or cities.

There was little changing of occupation among the rural households studied, two-thirds of the heads of households reported the same occupation throughout the period 1928 to 1935, and one-fourth of the total changed occupational status only once. As in the case of changes of residences, village households showed a greater readiness to change than did open country households. There was less changing of occupations among nonrelief than among relief families. Farm owners showed the greatest stability of residence, and the small group of professional persons the least; the latter group also reporting a greater range of migration.

"Rural Population Mobility in South Dakota, 1928-1935",
W. F. Kumlien, Robert L. McNamara, and Zetta E. Bankert,
South Dakota Agric. Exp. Sta. Bull. No. 315, Brookings,
South Dakota, Jan. 1938, 34 pp. (26 supplementary tables
issued as a separate mimeographed bulletin.)

Family Living in Knott County, Kentucky

The level of living of 228 families studied in Knott County, Kentucky, was lower than that of many groups of farm families in other areas. Many of the farms were small and had large proportions of steeply sloping, wooded or fallow and eroded land. A third of the families studied had no money income from the home farm, and for the remainder, income from this source was small, averaging \$56 per family for all families (1929-30). Coal mining provided irregular employment for members of less than one-third of the families, and others found work in industries of rural character. None of these offered sufficiently regular or lucrative employment to satisfactorily supplement the low money income derived from farming.

Money income from off-the-farm employment averaged \$355 per family. A few of the farms had homes which were well built and well equipped, but many of them were not constructed to withstand the winter climate of the region or equipped with even the simplest conveniences.

The large families characteristic of Knott County have been a factor in the low levels of living prevailing there. Many of the small farms represent patrimonies divided among the large families of former generations. Among the families studied the value of family living was found to be lower on the small farms, and per capita value of living was distinctly lower among the larger families than among the smaller ones. Community resources have not been adequate to provide the needed schools, roads, or recreational, sanitary and medical facilities.

Despite the scant economic resources in relation to the population, there has been relative immobility. More than three-fourths of the operators and almost 70 percent of the homemakers were born in the county. More than half of the parents of the operators and homemakers were born in the county, and nearly a third in some other southern Appalachian county. Nearly three-fourths of the sons and two-thirds of the daughters away from home were living in Knott County, and only about one-twelfth of the sons or daughters had moved out of the Southern Appalachians. The limited educational opportunities and the low economic levels of the families have apparently limited the occupations available to the children.

"Family Living in Knott County, Kentucky", Faith M.

Williams and others, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture,

Technical Bull. No. 576, Washington, D. C.,

Aug. 1937, 68 pp.

Large Families on Poor Land

Rapidly increasing population, large families, low incomes, steep land, and practices which are destroying the fertility of the soil are characteristic of the Stinking Creek Area in Knox County, Kentucky, according to a report from the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station. The average family included 5.5 persons. This group had available for spending an average of \$68 per family, only \$48 in the poorer portion of the area. Total family living furnished by the farm was \$147, more than half the families had less than this average. The average value of land and buildings was about \$18 per acre, and dwellings were valued at \$187. The farms averaged 63.5 acres in total area, of which the principal crop, corn, accounted for 9.7 acres. More than a third of the operators had no well-lying land and only about half of them had as much as five acres of well-lying land. Corn cultivation on steep hillsides had led to advanced erosion and very low productivity. The corn on the bottom land yielded almost three times as many bushels per man-day of labor as that on the hill land. A study of a typical cropping cycle indicated that during the cycle an average of five crops of corn may be expected on land cleared

for the first time and three crops after the land is cleared for the second time. At the end of the cycle the economic usefulness of the land has been practically destroyed.

Because of the relatively dense population of this area, land use adjustments must be approached slowly. "It is characteristic of our Kentucky mountain areas that for the time being, many of the occupants are satisfied to remain, partly because they are unacquainted with, or unadapted to, other modes of existence. Any proposal regarding such land must take these people into consideration. Although the land is essentially submarginal from the point of view of commercial farming, any attempt at the present time to stimulate the evacuation of these areas would be unwise. On the contrary, a wiser present policy is to help them make the best of their meager environment."

"Family Incomes and Land Utilization in Knox County", W. D. Nicholls, John H. Bondurant, and Z. L. Galloway, Kentucky Agric. Exp. Sta. Bull. No. 375, Lexington, Kentucky, Nov. 1937, 62 pp.

The Population of Louisiana

Nearly one-half of the native white population of Louisiana is of French ancestry and culture though the Creole and Acadian lines and French Huguenots are well represented in the remainder of the State's population. Foreign-born groups have been and remain more important in Louisiana than in other southern States, Italians forming the largest group. The proportion of Negroes, one-third, is greater than in all other southern States except Mississippi and South Carolina.

Louisiana is predominately rural, though less so than the remainder of the South. Throughout the State rural customs are of primary importance. This State, like other southern States, has large proportions of children to rear and educate and at the same time it has a deficiency of persons in the productive ages. Proportionately, Louisiana has few single and divorced persons, but many married and widowed. Illiteracy is high, three times the national average.

The racial makeup of the population is changing rapidly with the Negroes steadily losing in relative numerical importance. Foreign-born elements are rapidly disappearing. Relatively older persons are becoming more numerous, younger persons less so. Because of heavy migration of males to other States, the proportion of women is increasing. Illiteracy is decreasing rapidly. The proportion of the population engaged in agriculture is decreasing, and that engaged in other occupations is increasing, as is happening in other parts of the South.

"The Population of Louisiana: Its Composition and Changes", T. Lynn Smith, Louisiana Bull. No. 293, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Nov. 1937, 99 pp. (incl. 36 figures and 21 tables).

Minnesota Rural Rehabilitation Families

There are wide differences in earnings and the related farm management factors among the farmers borrowing from the Farm Security Administration and between this group and the better-managed farms in the same areas. The most hopeful prospect of additional income available for household and personal purposes and for debt retirement lies in the possibilities for increased farm earnings. Many farmers in the low earning brackets have many such possibilities for increased earnings through more efficient management and through the addition to the size of business by renting more land or intensifying on the present acreage. These possibilities include bigger gardens, choice of crops of higher return, improved varieties, weed control, more livestock, better livestock, feeding balanced rations, proper care of livestock, and many other good management practices.

There is not much opportunity for the low-earning farmers to make more of their income available for paying off debts and increasing net worth by cutting cash outlays for household and personal purposes. The higher income groups used considerably more farm-raised food and fuel per adult equivalent than the low earning groups. However, if the latter groups consumed more livestock and livestock products rather than selling them, there would be less income for purchasing other items.

"Summary Report of the Farm Management Service for Farmer-Borrowers of the Rural Rehabilitation Division of the Farm Security Administration for the Year 1936", W. P. Ranney and G. A. Pond, Mimeo. Report No. 94, Div. of Agric. Economics, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 1937. (In cooperation with U.S.D.A. and F.S.A.)

Vocational Interests of Rural High School Pupils

Rural high school students in 36 schools in Pennsylvania are less interested in agriculture as a vocation than in other pursuits. Less than one-third of the sons of farmers expected to follow their fathers' occupation. The others expressed primary interests in other occupations. Mechanical pursuits were the most common second choice, and work as an engineer was next. On the other hand, among the sons whose fathers were engaged in mechanical pursuits or in trade, one-eighth selected agriculture for themselves. During the four years of High School training, the popularity of agriculture as a vocation decreased slightly.

"Vocational Interests of Rural High School Pupils in Pennsylvania", C. S. Anderson, Penn. State College Bull. No. 342, State College, Penn., March 1937.

Social Organizations and Agencies in North Dakota

North Dakota farm families to an increasing extent look to the larger villages and cities for the services of social organizations and agencies. During the 10 years 1926-36 there was a definite trend toward the location of agencies in the larger population centers. The number of open country agencies decreased in practically all cases; larger villages showed a greater increase in numbers of social organizations than did the smaller ones.

The number of elementary schools declined, along with the decline in elementary school enrollment. The number of high schools and their enrollment increased, but although a considerable increase occurred in the proportion of farm children attending high school, this proportion is still less than among village and city children. Agricultural extension programs experienced important expansions during the period, including large increases in the number of Homemakers' and 4-H Clubs. The instability of the open-country church during the period was very pronounced. A definite trend toward the village church in rural areas was noted. While many of the social and recreational agencies, such as lodges, men's clubs, womens' clubs, parent-teachers associations, and community clubs declined in number, there were large increases in the numbers of social organizations for young people, and in farmers' organizations and veterans' organizations. Commercial recreational agencies, especially moving picture theaters and pool halls decreased in number, and although there was an increase in open country dance halls, the number of public dance halls also declined.

Among the important developments affecting the agencies serving rural people during the ten years were: marked extension of transportation and communication facilities, a rising educational status, an increase in the proportion of the population which is native-born, and a continued tendency toward centralization of special interest groups in the larger population centers.

"Social Organizations and Agencies in North Dakota - A Study of Trends, 1926 to 1936", Donald G. Hay, Bull. No. 288, Agric. Exp. Sta., North Dakota Agricultural College, Fargo, North Dakota, July 1937, 90 pp. (A follow-up of a similar study published in 1928 as Bull. No. 221.)

Rural Housing in Louisiana

Home ownership in the rural parts of Louisiana is more prevalent on poor than on fertile soil, except where fertile soil is associated with truck farming or French ancestry and a culture pattern which is based on cultivation of small plots by the family. In most respects, owners' homes are more nearly adequate than those of tenants, and white homes are more nearly so than those of the colored population. The

homes of colored owners in most cases average a little larger than those of white tenants, though for both groups there is less than one room per person, and for colored tenants it is much less. It is only among white owners, especially among the owners in the fertile delta areas of the State, that conveniences are present in a fairly high percentage of the homes. Lack of conveniences is due to a habit of doing without as well as to financial inability. Under the present system of agriculture, plantation owners do not make extensive improvements on the houses of tenants who are not supporting the additional outlay, are highly mobile, and who for generations have lacked the cultural background necessary for taking care of a house with adequate room and modern conveniences.

"Rural Housing in Louisiana", Ellen LeNoir and T. Lynn Smith, Louisiana Bull. No. 290, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Aug. 1937, 36 pp.

The Mechanical Cotton Picker

A successful mechanical cotton picker would probably be used first on level lands and on large plantations such as are found in the Mississippi Delta Area, but because of climate and growth habits of cotton on the semi-arid High Plains of Texas and Oklahoma, mechanical pickers of the type now being developed are not likely to be used in that area, according to a report by the National Research Project of the Works Progress Administration. This same report points out that in its present stage of development the mechanical picker is not likely to take the Cotton Belt by storm. Successful one- and two-row machines, if developed, might, in the course of perhaps 10 years be applied to an upper limit of about half the present cotton acreage and displace a maximum of 2 million hand pickers for the picking season of about 40 working days. The displacement of half a million pickers within a period of 5 to 10 years appears more probable, however. Such a development would tend to aggravate the insecurity of the tenants and sharecroppers in the localities where the picker was used. Along with the introduction of a successful picker would go an acceleration of the shift from animal to tractor power, as well as a tendency to mechanize preharvest operations, both of which would further add to insecurity for persons now working in cotton. In areas suited to cotton production there would be an expansion of cotton acreage; in others, cotton acreage would tend to be reduced. Furthermore, a successful picker would encourage significant increases in cotton acreage in Australia, Brazil, and Argentina as well as in this country. The authors of the report estimate the cost of machine harvesting at present as \$1.65 per hundred pounds, compared with \$1 per hundred pounds for hand picking.

"Mechanical Cotton Picker", Roman L. Horne and Eugene G. McKibben, Studies of Changing Techniques and Employment in Agriculture, Report No. A-2, National Research Project, W.P.A., Philadelphia, Penn., Aug. 1937, 24 pp.

Study of Social Service Staffs

This study of personnel in the Social Service Divisions of the State Emergency Relief Administrations is a summary of three inquiries on personnel made by the Division of Social Research of the Works Progress Administration during 1935 and 1936. Sharp reductions in social service staffs resulted in most States as case loads and relief budgets were reduced with the initiation of the Works Program. In reducing social service staffs, quality of work was most frequently considered, but training and experience were also important bases for selecting workers to be released. The worker's need for employment, seniority, community pressures, requests for workers from other agencies, and residence were other factors considered.

Because of the extent of the relief problem and the speed with which Social Service Divisions were established, personnel with the desired training and experience was not always available. The personnel requirements, although based on professional social work standards, were therefore adapted in each State to the available personnel. Every effort was made to improve the caliber of social service staffs through local institutes, through training at accredited schools of social work for selected personnel, and through other methods of in-service training.

The work of the S.E.R.A. Social Service Division during the periods surveyed fell into three general groups -- administering relief (which included statistical reporting and responding to inquiries and complaints), Works Program services, and services to other programs. In November the administration of direct relief was given as the chief function of practically all of the State Social Service Divisions, but in the spring of 1936 only 14 of the 42 States reporting gave this as the main function of the organization. Services to the Works Program were listed by the majority of the State organizations in 1936, but the emphasis was more on investigations and individual adjustments than on certifications. More State agencies in March than in November listed community interpretation, publicity, or educational work in preparation for a permanent State program as responsibilities of the staff.

In 22 States the agencies to be responsible for relief, at least for the year 1936, had been determined by March. Two trends were shown by this group of States -- a return of personnel control to the local unit and reduction of administrative expense. An increased consideration for local prejudices in employing staff was also apparent. The retention of trained and experienced personnel depended largely on the acceptability of the local worker to the community.

Social Service Division Staffs of the State
Emergency Relief Administration, 1935 and 1936,
Marjorie Merrill Ocker, Research Bulletin L-3,
Division of Social Research, Works Progress Ad-
ministration, Oct. 1937, 41 pp.

EXTENSION REPORTS

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State Coordinating Councils for Youth Serving Agencies

State Coordinating Councils of Youth Serving Agencies have been formed in 14 States, to enable the youth serving agencies to discuss common problems, gain a clearer understanding of the work of each agency arrive at joint undertakings wherever possible, survey the States for youth training and employment prospects, and to stimulate public interest in youth conservation. N.Y.A., C.C.C., W.P.A. educational programs, recreation and women's divisions, State Departments of Education, University Extension Services, State Committees on Apprentice Training, and State Welfare Departments have participated in these councils. In addition to acquainting youth agencies in the States more extensively with the purposes and activities of each other, the councils have developed a sharing of information on counseling, guidance and placement techniques, and development of improved cumulative record forms for the individual youth -- joint efforts to register all unemployed youth with public employment offices -- surveys of vocational and apprentice training opportunities for unemployed and out of school youth -- closer collaboration between emergency educational programs and State Departments of Education to afford youth in emergency programs better training facilities and accreditation of educational work satisfactorily completed -- increases in the number of W.P.A. and N.Y.A. instructors in C.C.C. educational programs -- a follow-up of returned C.C.C. enrollees and high school graduates to render them advisory service, further training opportunities and occupational guidance -- an exchange of reports, surveys, and publications on the needs of youth and on youth training, adjustment, and conservation programs.

Extension Conference

At the request of Dr. C. B. Smith of the Extension Service, a number of Extension Sociologists and teachers and research workers in Rural Sociology came to Washington following the annual meeting of the American Sociological Society. On December 31, 1937 to January 1, 1938 they met with representatives of the Federal Extension Service, Rural Recreation Specialists, and other interested persons to discuss the relations of the Extension Sociologist to the work of the Extension Service, and the relations of teaching and research in Rural Sociology. About 40 persons were in attendance.

Rural Sociology Extension Work in Illinois

Twelve specialists were used either full or part time during 1937 in some phase of extension work in rural sociology. These included D. E. Lindstrom, E. H. Regnier, both of whom put in most of their time, Clark L. Loomis, who put in one-eighth time, these three being used in all phases of the work; specialists in music; and specialists in drama. A. Drummond Jones was loaned by the United States Department of Agriculture for help in discussion leader training.

County program-building committees in 63 counties made specific recommendations for working out methods to reach a larger number of people with extension programs, indicating that community unit organizations were an important means of doing this for they served to unify efforts of special interest groups such as cooperatives, homemaker groups, rural youth, 4-H clubs in the community, and reached many others not touched by these groups.

Seven phases of work were carried on in 1937, including (1) community leader conferences, reaching 54 counties, in which time was given to local analysis, organization, program planning, officers' training in county, district, and State conferences; (2) cultural activities, including music, drama, chorus, and recreation leader training, music and drama tournaments being carried to 47 counties, chorus work being carried to 31 counties, recreation leader training carried to 83 counties, camps and training schools in four counties; (3) discussion leader training was carried to 19 counties; (4) inter-group relationships conferences were held in 21 counties; (5) county program building was carried on in 9 counties; (6) assistance with rural youth, district and State meetings; and (7) talks and lectures to interpret social trends; or a total of 96 counties in which one or more phases of work were carried on, attracting 24,283 persons.

Plans for 1938 include five phases of work, namely, (1) conferences of community leaders for analysis, organization, program planning, and training of officers and committees; (2) assistance in rural recreation, including music, drama, rural social recreation for rural community units, homemaker groups, rural youth, 4-H clubs, camps, and special activities; (3) discussion leader training; (4) inter-group relationships conferences; and (5) talks and lectures to help interpret social trends.

Rural Sociology Extension Work in Iowa

The Iowa program of rural sociology extension work in 1937 was directed to advancing social thought and effective rural organization through three types of activity:

1. Sociological service - assembling and disseminating rural life information, through (1) advisory help to other staff workers, (2) rural life information circulars, reports, broadcasts, exhibits, and news releases, and (3) leadership service of guides and program helps.

2. Rural organization - teaching sociological techniques which help rural groups to function more effectively. This involves (1) community planning, (2) leadership training for officers and committees of local units of farmers organizations, (3) country life conferences and cooperative program development with church leaders, (4) program planning conferences for leaders of rural youth groups, and (5) community adult education forums.

3. Family and community activities - providing leadership and aids for social and cultural programs through (1) State-wide home and community music program, (2) community drama and oral reading project, (3) social activities service of program helps, recreation institute, hobby exhibitions, demonstration programs, and cooperative planning with other State agencies.

DIVISIONAL AND STATE NEWS

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The Rural Sociological Society of America was organized late in December, 1937, to promote developments of rural sociology through research, teaching, and extension work. Approximately 75 rural sociologists were in attendance at the meetings in Atlantic City at which this action was taken. Membership is open to any person professionally employed in the field of rural sociology or who is interested in the objects of the Society. Officers for the current year include:

President - Dwight Sanderson, Cornell University

Vice President - John H. Kolb, University of Wisconsin

Secretary-Treasurer - T. Lynn Smith, Louisiana State University

Members of the Executive Committee - Carl C. Taylor, U. S.
Dept. of Agriculture, and C. E. Lively, Ohio State
University.

The dues were fixed at \$3 per year which includes a subscription to the official journal of the society, Rural Sociology.

Division News

As in the past year, the Division is cooperating with a number of State Agricultural Experiment Stations for the purpose of developing State estimates of farm population and the movements to and from farms. A number of techniques are being tried this year: in one State a translation of the schedule was mailed out with the English version in order to cover a large foreign language group; in another, correspondents are being asked to report only for the sections (square mile) in which their farms are located; one collaborator is securing information for entire school districts; another is covering entire townships; and in one instance a part of the information is being obtained through personal interview. Spot checks through field work, to study the reliability of returns and to check on various techniques for obtaining this information are under way. A number of supplementary inquiries dealing with farm

population movements were included with the basic schedule, but complete results of these attempts are not yet available. Cooperative agreements for this project have been developed in the following States: Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Washington. Plans now being formulated for 1939 include the possibility of further trial of personal interviews with a well selected sample of informants.

"Hospitals for Rural Communities" is the title of Farmers Bulletin No. 1792 issued by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, which supersedes the earlier bulletin on Rural Hospitals prepared by the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. The author is Blanch Halbert, formerly associated with the Division. The bulletin surveys briefly the needs for rural hospitals, and problems which must be solved before a rural community can build a hospital, and gives information on costs, financing, building plans, selection of site, organization, and maintenance of standards.

Chas. S. Hoffman, formerly attached to this Division, has recently published an article in the Monthly Labor Review (January 1938) which will be of interest to readers of Activities. It is entitled, "Drought and Depression Migration Into Oregon, 1930 to 1936." Mr. Hoffman is now on the social research staff of Region III, Farm Security Administration.

Dr. Maurice Parmalee has recently been added to the staff of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life to make a study of the practical contribution of this Division to the land program under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act.

Dr. Carl C. Taylor presented a paper entitled, "Constructive Farm Population Policies" at a recent seminar conducted by the Milbank Memorial Fund in New York City. He also addressed the Southern Sociological Society in Chattanooga on April 2 on the subject, "Constructive Measures for Dealing with the South's Population Problems."

Dr. Conrad Taeuber attended a meeting on March 28 in New York City of the Committee on Population Policy and Social Planning. This meeting was called by the National Economic and Social Planning Association of Washington, D. C.

Dr. O. E. Baker delivered a series of five lectures at Northwestern University between April 5th and 8th on the following subjects: The Poverty of Rural People, The Drift of Farm Youth and Wealth to the Cities, The Declining Birth Rate, Some Implications of the Declining Birth Rate, and Conservation of Human Resources.

Dr. E. L. Kirkpatrick, formerly in charge of social research in Region II of the Farm Security Administration, has recently taken a position in the Washington office of the American Youth Commission

Mr. Joseph J. Lister, until recently on the social research staff of the Farm Security Administration in Washington, has joined Dr. Kirkpatrick in his work with the Youth Commission.

Mr. O. E. Loenard, who is in the Social Research Section of the Farm Security Administration, has recently returned from a field investigation of wage labor which is being conducted by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and Bureau of Agricultural Economics in conjunction with the University of Arkansas. The study was conducted by means of personal interviews with wage laborers, sharecroppers, and plantation owners in Miller, Jefferscn, and Phillips counties in Arkansas. Some 500 schedules were gathered, which will be tabulated and analyzed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in Washington.

The Division has available for distribution some additional copies of the January issue of Activities, which was devoted to an appraisal of rural sociology, its accomplishments, and its tasks. This statement was the one which furnished the basis for the discussion at the meetings of the Rural Sociological Society at Atlantic City.

Dr. C. Luther Fry, head of the Department of Sociology at Rochester University, died April 12, in Rochester. From 1922 to 1933, when he went to Rochester, Dr. Fry was associated with the Institute of Social and Religious Research, where his studies of American villages attracted attention. Dr. Fry was author of: "American Villagers", "Census Analysis of American Villages", "The United States Looks at Its Churches", "The Technique of Social Investigation", "The New and Old Immigrant on the Land", "Diagnosing the Rural Church", and he contributed to the report on "Recent Social Trends" and the report of the Laymen's Foreign Mission Inquiry, as well as a number of other publications.

State Notes

Professor Lowry Nelson of the University of Minnesota attended the meeting of the Permanent Agricultural Committee of the International Labor Office at Geneva, Switzerland, February 7-15. Dr. Nelson is the United States member of this Committee.

Professor C. E. Lively, who has been at Ohio State University since 1921, has accepted the appointment as Professor of Rural Sociology at the University of Missouri, succeeding the late Professor E. L. Morgan. At Ohio State University Professor Lively had carried on an extensive research program, and in recent years his services were repeatedly requested by emergency agencies dealing with rural life problems.

Dean F. B. Mumford of the Missouri College of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station will retire from active duty September 1, 1938, and will be replaced by Prof. M. F. Miller, Chairman of the Department of Soils.

The Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station has issued the Proceedings of the First Mid-Western Conference on Rural Population Research, held at the University of Missouri on April 23-24, 1937. The conference had been sponsored by the College of Agriculture of the University of Missouri and the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

Dr. Mary Eva Duthie, who is on sabbatic leave from Cornell University, is in Europe where she is studying folk festivals, folk dancing, and folk music for use in her Extension work.

Dr. William G. Mather, Jr., Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana, will teach in the rural sociology department of Cornell University this summer.

Professor N. L. Sims of Oberlin College will conduct a group of teachers and students on an agricultural tour to Scandinavia and the Soviet Union this summer. It is planned to give especial attention to the cooperative movement in the Scandinavian countries and the collective farms in the Soviet Union.

Dr. Leland B. Tate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute will conduct rural sociology courses at both Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the University of Virginia this summer, those at V. P. I. extending from June 9 to July 15, and those at the University from the last of July until September.

Two reports in the Virginia rural relief series have been recently issued, they are: "Magnitude of the Emergency Relief Program in Rural Virginia, 1933-36" and "The Non-Relief Employment of Rural Workers on Relief in Virginia, October 1935." Two reports have also been completed in connection with the part-time farming study in this State. One is a preliminary report on Pittsylvania and Roanoke County part-time farming and the other is a complete report of the entire seven-county part-time farming survey representing the combination of agriculture and industry in all parts of Virginia.

The Population Association of America will hold its annual meeting in Princeton, New Jersey, May 6-8. The major topics for discussion are population policy, research needs, and studies needed in connection with the 1940 Census.

Members of the Department of Economics and Sociology at Montana State College are doing considerable thinking, writing, and pointed research work leading up to the following major thesis: "Wanted! A Culture for the Great Plains Region." The central thesis is that the Great Plains is radically different in physical environment from the humid regions to the East. It is an environment that is subject to extremes as well as stresses and strains in nature. The culture, imported from the more humid East, was not adaptable. Consequently, this unadapted culture is the source of numerous Great Plains problems. Drought

is the normal thing on the Plains, and the ways of living must be adapted to the drought, rather than vice versa. The need appears then to be an "adapted culture" for the Great Plains Region. This represents a point of view and an approach to the study of Great Plains problems that has not been stressed. In fact, it has been very definitely overlooked. The task ahead is to encourage thinking and research along the lines of this approach.

Dr. Ray E. Wakely has returned to active duty at Iowa State College following a three months' leave of absence in Washington, D. C., where he helped to prepare a report on rural poverty and relief which was presented to the special Senate Committee on Unemployment and Relief.

SPECIAL ITEMS

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Methodology of Regionalization

The delineation of socio-economic regions and subregions for the rural-farm population of the United States, for purposes of social planning and research, has been undertaken by the Division of Social Research of the Works Progress Administration. Based on the county as the unit, broad regions were delineated on the basis of major types of farming, a rural-farm plane of living index, an index of population fertility, and the percentage of farm tenancy. By means of these and additional indices, such as farm tenancy, percent of farms producing less than a given amount of income in 1929, percent of farm produce used on the farm, per capita land value, and percent of the rural population engaged in farming, subregions are being differentiated. On the basis of careful statistical testing of variations in the indices from county to county, boundaries between regions and subregions are being fixed to represent a final approximation to socio-economic areas.

Survey of Public Assistance in Drought Areas

Sixty-four counties in ten States of the Great Plains drought region have been surveyed by the Division of Social Research of the Works Progress Administration to obtain a monthly record of relief expenditures, by agencies, for the period July 1936 through June 1937. Geographical distribution in relation to varying degrees of intensity of drought distress was considered in the selection, as well as the representation of sections offering special problems arising from agricultural, industrial, racial, or other considerations. 79,060 schedules were filled and are now in process of tabulation.

Results of the survey will include a complete and unduplicated count of families receiving public assistance in sample counties of drought areas; the type and amount of public assistance extended in the

form of work, emergency loans, or direct grants; the relative incidence of relief by occupation; the extent to which families received assistance from two or more agencies simultaneously; the extent of relief turnover; and the extent and direction of movement of families out of the drought areas.

Young People Consider Conservation

Conservation and Rural Life was the theme of the Youth Section of the American Country Life Association at its meeting in Manhattan, Kansas, October 14-16, 1937. Discussion centered about the topics of land and its best use, jobs, relief, handicrafts and hobbies, art and nature study, folk games and drama, neighborliness and community spirit, and home and family. It was realized that the greatest possibilities lay in a broader understanding of existing conditions and there was a manifest desire to use already available facilities more fully and to meet the need of cooperating more closely with the many organizations and agencies in the field for the improvement of the typical rural community. Especial attention was also given to the sessions devoted to "learning by doing". Nearly 200 delegates attended the conference, representing 58 groups of young people from 20 States. The 1938 meeting is to be held at the University of Kentucky, Lexington.

Officers elected are:

President - Howard Sharp, Illinois University, Normal

Vice Presidents - Everett Woods, Central Michigan

Teachers College, Mt. Pleasant

Warren Bray, Massachusetts State College,
Amherst

Orville Moody, Riley County Kansas, Riley

Secretary - Byrd Kendall, University of Kentucky, Lexington

Editor - George Duback, Ohio State University, Columbus

A Study of Land Use in China

"Land Utilization in China," is a basic study of agriculture and population problems in modern China, a study made by the Department of Agricultural Economics of the University of Nanking under the direction and of J. Lossing Buck. This is a study of 16,786 farms in 168 localities and 38,256 farm families in 22 provinces in China, during 1929 to 1933. Population, Nutrition, Standard of Living, and Farm Labor are some of the topics treated. Credit for first suggesting such a study is given to O. E. Baker. In addition to the basic volume, published by the University of Nanking and distributed by the University of Chicago Press, there has been issued an Atlas and an appendix volume giving detailed data for the 100 farms studied in each of the 168 localities.

Population Data

The National Resources Board has released three volumes of data containing statistical material prepared for the Board's Study of Population Problems. Vol. I, National Data, includes estimates of the future population of the United States; ratios of children to women by size of communities by divisions and States, 1910, 1920, and 1930; ratios of children to women by counties; data on economic status of farm population by regions and by States, estimates of migration to and from farms, 1930-35; and social-economic distribution of gainful workers in each State, classified by sex, race, and nativity, 1930. Vol. II, State Data, includes corrected birth tables by States, 1918-1921, and 1929-1931; and life tables for white population by States, 1929-1931. Vol. III, Urban Data, gives statistics for urban population changes and the growth of metropolitan regions.

Recent Releases from Bureau of the Census

The Bureau of the Census has recently released the result of its tabulation of number of births and deaths according to place of residence. As students of population have often pointed out, a true picture of birth and death rates can be obtained only when births and deaths can be related to the population to which they are properly allocated. The new tabulation - Vital Statistics Special Reports, Volume 3, No. 40 - gives the total number of births in each State, the non-resident births, and the births of residents who were born in other States, during 1935. A similar tabulation for deaths is contained in the same publication.

Other recent releases of interest to students of Rural Sociology include: Vital Statistics Special Reports, Vol. 5, No. 2, Number of live births by race in urban and rural areas of each State, 1936; Vol. 5, No. 3, Number of live births and percentage distribution, by race and by person in attendance, in each State, 1936; Vol. 5, No. 4, Number of live births and percentage distribution by person in attendance, in urban and rural areas of each State, 1936; Vol. 5, No. 7, Number of deaths (exclusive of stillbirths) by race and by urban and rural areas, 1936; Vol. 5, No. 8, Number of deaths (exclusive of stillbirths) under 1 year of age by race and by rural and urban areas; Vol. 5, No. 9, Number of live births by legitimacy for each State, 1936; Vol. 5, No. 11, Summary of natality and mortality data for each State, 1936.

Migration from South Dakota

In connection with the study of movement to and from farms in South Dakota, information was obtained concerning the origin and destination of the migrants who crossed State lines. Two-fifths of the farm persons who moved out of the State went to one of the Pacific Coast States. The States directly east of South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa, also received appreciable proportions. The chief sources of farm persons who moved into the State during the year were found in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and Wisconsin.

Coordinated Illinois Study

The possibilities of coordinated study of the problems of an area is illustrated in a report on the Physical, Economic, and Social Aspects of the Valley of the Kaskaskia River in the State of Illinois, published by the University of Illinois, the State Surveys, and certain State Departments, Urbana, Ill., June 1937. The two-volume report includes chapters on the History of Settlement, Population and Other Socio-Economic Factors, and Social Welfare, in addition to chapters on physical resources and economic organization.

* * * * *

"Minnesota Farms and Farm Jobs" is a manual of information for farm placement workers, describing in detail the types of work performed on Minnesota farms and the amount of work which may be expected at various times during the year. The bulletin is published by the National Re-employment Service and the Minnesota State Employment Service, June 1937.

* * * * *

The Bureau of the Census has released Bulletin 2 of the Census of Puerto Rico, 1935, which gives the characteristics of the population including occupations. Of especial interest is the definition of rural and urban employed in this release. Urban refers to all cities and towns, whereas rural applies to all areas outside these cities and towns.

* * * * *

"Living Rooms of Low-Income Farm Families of Mississippi" is the title of an article in the Journal of Home Economics for December 1937 in which Dorothy Dickins reports on the results of an attempt to develop a scale for the measurement of living room equipment of low income farm families, following the technique used by Professor Chapin and others in their studies of urban families.

* * * * *

A recent bulletin recommends that in the interests of good landlord-tenant relationships, all leases should be in writing; owners should be required by law to give tenants six and croppers three months notice before termination of tenancy; tenants should be compensated

for unexhausted improvements made by them previous to releasing a holding; and tenants should know that under law they are liable for treble the damage caused by misuse. In addition, minimum standards of housing and sanitary conditions for tenants should be established and enforced.

"Proposed Adjustments in the Farm Tenancy System in Missouri," by John H. Dickerson, Dept. of Agric. Econ., Univ. of Mo., and U. S. Dept. of Agric., Farm Security Adm., cooperating. Res. Bull. No. 270, Dec. 1937, Columbia, Mo., 63 pp.

* * * * *

A study of levels of living, farm incomes, and expenses of 113 farm families living in a relatively poor agricultural area in Union County, Illinois, in 1934, indicates an average value of family living of \$497, of which \$272 represented cash expenditure. Gross farm receipts were \$549. The value of living is classified in terms of established categories and a statement of social participation is included. The bases of the analysis were farm records and supplementary sociological schedules.

"Farm Incomes and Expenditures and Costs of Family Living in the Lick Creek Area, Southern Illinois, 1934," by D. E. Lindstrom and H. C. M. Case, Univ. of Ill. Agric. Exp. Sta., in coop. with the Ill. Emergency Relief Commission and the Fed. W.P.A., Urbana, Ill., Sept. 1937. Mimeo., 33 pp.

* * * * *

In eleven rural counties in Missouri the farmers bear the brunt of local taxes, rural and farm real and personal property constituting approximately 60 percent of the total tax base. Counties large in area have expended little or no more for governmental services than small counties. This argues in favor of county consolidation, according to a recent bulletin from the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station. However, county consolidation would result in little saving in school costs and road expenditures.

The poorer counties in the Ozarks have a small amount of taxable wealth per school child. These counties do not have adequate school facilities. Since they have high birth rates resulting in net migration outward, the State and Federal governments have the undeniable responsibility of assisting in the support of their educational agencies. Cities to which the migrants go should help support the rural schools.

The study of rural Missouri governmental costs indicates relationships between expenditures and such factors as total population, assessed wealth, and the like. Factors related to efficiency in governmental expenditures and service as well as equity are discussed. Three solutions to the problem of the prevalence of tax delinquency and inefficient

services in the poorer Ozark counties are (1) resettlement increasing the ratio of taxable resources to the number of persons in the population, (2) shifting the cost of local government to the State, and (3) increasing taxable wealth by reforestation and other means.

"The Farmer and the Cost of Local Rural Government in Missouri," by Conrad H. Hammar and Glen T. Barton, Agric. Exp. Sta. Bull. 385, Columbia, Mo., June 1937, 90 pp.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS
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"A Graphic Summary of the Number, Size, and Type of Farm, and Value of Products," by O. E. Baker, Misc. Publ. No. 266, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Oct. 1937.

"Disadvantaged Classes in American Agriculture," by Carl C. Taylor, Helen W. Wheeler, and E. L. Kirkpatrick, Social Research Report No. VIII, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., April 1938.

"Social Status and Farm Tenure - Attitudes and Social Conditions of Corn Belt and Cotton Belt Farmer," by E. A. Schuler, Social Research Report No. IV, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., April 1938.

"A Basis for Social Planning in Coffee County, Alabama," by Karl Shafer, Social Research Report No. VI, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Dec. 1937.

"Living Conditions and Population Migration in Four Appalachian Counties," by L. S. Dodson, Social Research Report No. III, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Oct. 1937.

"Outstanding Farm-Mortgage Loans of Leading Lending Agencies," by Norman J. Wall, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Bur. of Agric. Econ., Wash., D. C., Dec. 1937.

"Trends in Relief Expenditures 1910-1935," by Anne E. Geddes, Research Monograph X, Works Prog. Adm., Wash., D. C., 1937.

"Part-Time Farming in the Southeast," by R. H. Allen, L. S. Cottrell, Jr., W. W. Troxell, Harriet L. Herring, and A. D. Edwards, Research Monograph No. IX, Works Prog. Adm., Wash., D. C., 1937, 317 pp.

"Hospitals for Rural Communities," by Blanche Halbert, Farmers Bull. No. 1792, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Nov. 1937, 41 pp. (This bulletin supersedes Farmers Bull. No. 1485, Rural Hospitals.)

"Infant and Maternal Mortality Among Negroes," by Elizabeth C. Tandy, Bur. Publ. No. 243, Children's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Wash., D. C., 1937.

"Social Service Division Staffs of the State Emergency Relief Administrations, 1935 and 1936," by Marjorie Merrill Ocker, Res. Bull. L-3, Div. of Soc. Res., W.P.A., Oct. 1937, 41 pp.

"Rural Youth on Relief," by Bruce L. Melvin, Res. Mono, No. XI, Div. of Soc. Res., W.P.A., 1937, 112 pp.

"Federal Legislation, Regulations, and Rulings Affecting Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics," Misc. Publ. No. 285, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Sept. 1937, 31 pp.

"Rich Land - Poor People," by Max R. White, Douglas Ensminger, and Cecil L. Gregory, Res. Rpt. No. 1, Farm Sec. Admin., Indianapolis, Ind., January 1938.

"What is Soil Erosion"?, U. S. Dept. of Agric., Misc. Publ., No. 286, Feb. 1938.

"Mechanical Cotton Picker," by Roman L. Horne and Eugene G. McKibben, Studies of Changing Techniques and Employment in Agriculture, Report No. A-2, National Research Project, W. P. A., Philadelphia, Penna., Aug. 1937, 24 pp.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Placer County, California," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Oct. 1937.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Livingston County, Illinois," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Oct. 1937.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Concordia Parish, Louisiana," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Oct. 1937.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Archuleta County, Colorado," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Nov. 1937.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Hamilton County, Iowa," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Nov. 1937.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Pawnee County, Kansas," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Nov. 1937.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Todd County, Kentucky," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Nov. 1937.

"Survey of Agricultural Labor Conditions in Lac Qui Parle County, Minnesota," by Tom Vasey and J. C. Folsom, Farm Security Adm., and Bur. of Agric. Econ., U. S. Dept. of Agric., Wash., D. C., Nov. 1937.

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"Hired Labor Requirements on Arizona Irrigated Farms," by E. D. Tetreau, Bull. No. 160, Agr. Exp. Sta., Univ. of Ariz., Tuson, Ariz., 1938.

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"Rural Recreation," by June Donahue, Ext. Circ. No. 373, Ext. Serv., Univ. of Ark., Fayetteville, Ark., June 1936.

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"A Sociological Analysis of Relief and Non-Relief Families in a Rural Connecticut Town," by Nathan L. Whetten and Walter C. McKain, Jr., Bull. No. 219, Agr. Exp. Sta., Storrs, Conn., July 1937.

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Iowa

"Farm Tenure in Iowa. IV. Farm Tenure Conditions in Palo Alto County," by Rainer Schickele, Bull. No. 364, Agr. Exp. Sta., Ames, Iowa, Aug. 1937, 183 pp.

Kansas

"Some Factors Limiting Effectiveness in Kansas Extension Programs," by C. R. Jaccard, Ext. M Circular 17, Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kans., Oct. 1937.

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"Family Incomes and Land Utilization in Knox County," by W. D. Nicholls, John H. Bondurant, and Z. L. Galloway, Bull. No. 375, Ky. Agr. Exp. Sta., Lexington, Ky., Nov. 1937, 62 pp.

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"Rural Housing in Louisiana," by Ellen LeNoir and T. Lynn Smith, Bull. No. 290, La. State Univ. and Agr. Exp. Sta., Baton Rouge, La., Aug. 1937.

"The Population of Louisiana: Its Composition and Changes," by T. Lynn Smith, Bull. No. 293, La. State Univ., Baton Rouge, La., Nov. 1937, 99 pp. (incl. 36 figures and 21 tables).

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"Family Living on Poorer and Better Soil," by Dorothy Dickins, Bull. No. 320, Miss. Agr. Exp. Sta., State College, Miss., Sept. 1937, 46 pp.

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"The Activities of Rural Young People in Missouri," by E. L. Morgan and Melvin W. Sneed, Res. Bull. No. 269, Agr. Exp. Sta., Univ. of Mo., Columbia, Mo., 1938.

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"Proposed Adjustments in the Farm Tenancy System in Missouri," by John H. Dickerson, Dept. of Agric. Econ., Univ. of Mo., and U. S. Dept. of Agric., Farm Security Adm., cooperating. Res. Bull. No. 270, Dec. 1937, Columbia, Mo., 63 pp.

Montana

"Some Economic and Social Aspects of Irrigation in Montana," by P. L. Slagsvold and J. D. Mathews, Bull. No. 354, Mont. Agr. Exp. Sta., Bozeman, Mont., Jan. 1938, 24 pp.

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"A Description of the Agriculture and Type of Farming Areas in Texas," by C. A. Bonnen and B. H. Thibodeaux, Bull. No. 544, Agr. Exp. Sta., College Station, Texas, June 1937.

"Possible Savings Through Changes in Local Government," by H. C. Bradshaw and L. P. Gabbard, Bull. No. 540, Agr. Exp. Sta., College Station, Texas, April 1937.

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"Collegiate Education in Agriculture," Cir. No. 29, The College of Agriculture, Univ. of the Philippines, Manila, P. I., March 10, 1937.

"Land Utilization in China," from a study made by the Dept. of Agric. Economics of the Univ. of Nanking, under the direction of J. Lossing Buck, published by Univ. of Nanking and distributed by the Univ. of Chicago Press.



FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 1, 1938

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RESEARCH REPORTS

Family Selection on a Federal Reclamation Project

Factors contributing to both success and failure of settlers on a Federal Irrigation Project are discussed in a report entitled "Family Selection on a Federal Reclamation Project - Tule Lake Division of the Klamath Irrigation Project, Oregon-California." This study involving 136 families outlines methods employed in selecting families for settlement on the project in 1927. A selection board consisting of three members graded eligibility of applicants as to industry, experience, character, and capital during 1927 and 1928. These ratings were made from mailed applications and recommendations. In 1936 the same families were rated again - this time as to success, effort, and social standing in the community. This rating was tested and found valid on the basis of field interviews with 54 families. The appraisals of the selection board and the quality later demonstrated by the settlers were found to be fairly well correlated. Low appraisals were particularly reliable. "Therefore had applications out-numbered homestead opportunities, the selection process would have excluded many more undesirable than desirable applicants."

The report states: ".....of the four initial sub-ratings, only the one on former farming experience shows a definite correlation with the quality of the selected applicants as revealed later by their activities on the homesteads. The other three show but a slight correlation. This is especially true of the sub-ratings on industry and character, because of the fact that in cases of doubt high ratings were given. On the other hand, the few low ratings on these criteria later proved to be largely justified. The selection method of the Bureau of Reclamation therefore appears to be a fairly satisfactory instrument for forecasting the future success of a prospect, provided it is used by a reasonable selection board. The board working at Tule Lake in 1927 evidently did a particularly good job in reducing the statements on former farming experience, exaggerated in many cases, to reasonable proportions."

But the quality of applicants as farmers and citizens did not indicate clearly whether they would or would not remain as settlers. About half the families studied did leave during the 9-year period. The report includes an analysis of reasons for selling and leaving their homesteads; chief among these was "sale for speculation."

Recommendations for development of criteria for selection of settlers of resettlement projects, as well as suggestions for reducing the large turn-over on projects, are included in this report.

"Family Selection on a Federal Reclamation Project - Tule Lake Division of the Klamath Irrigation Project, Oregon-California," Marie Jasny, Social Research Report No. V, U.S.D.A., Washington, D. C., June 1938, 88 pp.

Problems of a Changing Population

The nation is rapidly approaching a peak in the numbers of its population and this will be followed by a period of slow decrease, unless growth is accelerated by a changed immigration policy. This is one of the major findings presented in the report of the Committee on Population Problems of the National Resources Committee. Just when the peak will be reached and the number of persons at that time cannot be foretold definitely, but a minimum estimate places the peak at 139,000,000 in 1955 with a decrease of 10,000,000 during the following quarter century. The maximum was placed at 158,000,000 within 50 years. The signs of change in population trends are already apparent from the fact that the rate of growth during the depression was only half that which occurred during the decade 1920-30. The increase between 1920 and 1930 was also less than that for any preceding decade.

The urban population of the nation, according to the Committee, is already so great in relation to the rural population that further growth of cities will be much slower and more uncertain than in the past. With the virtual cessation of immigration and the rapid decline of natural increase which is especially characteristic of urban communities, there will be much more competition among cities to attract the decreasing number of available migrants. During the past century the number of migrants has been so large that an appreciable number have gone even to areas of meager opportunity, so that all parts of the Nation have shared in the increase in population. In the future this will not be the case unless immigration bars are let down, which is unlikely.

In spite of the tendency for undirected migration to effect a balance between the distribution of population and distribution of economic resources, there remained in this country large areas of over-population relative to developed resources, resulting in chronic poverty and cultural stagnation for millions of people. In the middle twenties the average productivity of each farm worker in the Southeast was less than half that for all the rest of the United States and well below that for the average agricultural worker in England.

The Committee pointed out as significant that the highest ratios of children to adults are found in the poorest areas. The counties with the lowest material level of living had 77 percent more children in 1930 than were necessary to replace the parents. On the other hand, the counties with the highest level of living had an average deficit of 17 percent. This tendency makes it impossible for children in the poorer areas to enjoy equal educational opportunities; the Southeast with 13 percent of the Nation's children receives only 2 percent of the Nation's income.

The Committee recommends several approaches to the problem of population distribution: (1) Encouraging the free movement of workers from agricultural areas of little productivity, (2) Governmental purchase of land unsuited to agriculture, (3) The diversion of land to such uses. (4) The development of new enterprises, including diversified types of agricultural production, (5) A carefully developed facilitation of residence outside the central areas of large cities, and (6) The maintenance

of a conservative immigration policy, for "so long as there is a large surplus population in some rural areas in this country it seems unnecessary and inadvisable to encourage the immigration of persons initially equipped for unskilled rather than for technical production."

In view of the bearing of population studies on many problems now facing the Nation, the Committee asserts that there is great need for strengthening the regular research agencies dealing with population statistics.

The major topics covered in the report are: I. The trend of population: Economic aspects. II. Regional distribution of economic opportunity. III. Trends in population redistribution. IV. Regional and racial differences in production rates. V. Social conditions affecting birth rates. VI. Physical characteristics and biological inheritance. VII. Health and physical development. VIII. Social development and education. IX. Cultural diversity in American life. Appendices discuss Government needs and responsibilities for population research, Government serial reports and current population research, continuous register system of population accounting. Dr. Frank Lorimer was Director of the Technical Staff.

"The Problems of a Changing Population," Report
of the Committee on Population Problems to the
National Resources Committee, May 1938, 306 pp.

Rural Relief and Non-relief Families in Three Colorado Counties

Differences between rural relief households and their neighbors who were not on relief in three Colorado Counties were found in factors which had been in operation for many years before 1933. Among farm workers, tenants and laborers were more likely to receive relief than owners; among non-farm workers, unskilled laborers were more frequent than other occupations among those on relief. Heads of relief households tended to be under 35 or over 54 years of age, whereas heads of non-relief households were more frequently between 35 and 54. Relief households included more broken families, more dependents, and fewer gainful workers. Male heads of relief households had less education and their children in turn were more retarded in school than those of non-relief parents. Farm operators on relief had smaller farms, earned less from supplementary employment, and had moved about more than heads of non-relief households.

These data are taken from a survey of 375 relief and 714 non-relief households in the rural parts of Baca, Elbert, and Larimer Counties. Schedules were taken as of October 1933.

"Rural Households and Dependency," Olaf F.
Larson, Bull. No. 444, Colorado Experiment
Station, Fort Collins, Colorado, May 1938,
48 pp.

Effects of the Works Program on Rural Relief

By the end of 1935 employment on projects of the Works Progress Administration, the Bureau of Public Roads, and other Works Program agencies had become a major source of income of the former Emergency Relief Administration cases included in a survey of some 5,400 families removed from ERA rolls between June and December 1935, in rural counties of Montana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, West Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia. The majority of the household heads who were not farming or engaged in some other private employment had Works Program jobs.

Young people who had not been able to establish their own families because they had always been unemployed got their first chance to work on WPA. This was especially striking in West Virginia where many able-bodied young men in mountain areas were unable to find work of any kind until WPA came along.

At least a third of all the breadwinners for the former Emergency Relief Administration cases in the rural counties had reached the age of 45, and their chances of becoming permanently self-supporting in private industry were limited by this fact. Many of the economic heads of households in the Cotton South were women, and in all States surveyed most of the nonagricultural workers were unskilled.

Former Emergency Relief Administration cases that were unable to find employment either on the Works Program or in private industry or to get aid from the Resettlement Administration numbered about one out of six or seven in most of the States in December 1935, according to the report. Federal funds for general relief to such cases were being rapidly exhausted in December 1935, and some of the States had not yet accepted responsibility for general relief to the needy within their borders and were leaving the entire task to local governments, often impoverished from the effects of the depression.

The report pointed out that in Georgia, which had never provided State funds for relief and where all Federal aid was terminated in November, less than 4 percent of the unemployable and unemployed cases formerly on ERA rolls in rural counties had general relief in December. In rural Montana on the other hand, 68 percent, and in rural Iowa, 78 percent, of such cases received relief from State or local sources or from remaining Federal funds.

Families unable to obtain either employment or relief, amounting to from 7 to 17 percent of the total in the rural counties of the seven States, were depending on relatives and friends, surplus commodities, loans, sale of personal belongings, and other miscellaneous sources. From 3 to 8 percent reported no income at all in the month of December.

"Effects of the Works Program on Rural Relief," Rebecca Farnham and Irene Link, Research Monograph XIII, Division of Social Research, Works Progress Administration, 1938, pp. xxiv and 115.

Youth Tell Their Story

Under this title, the American Youth Commission reports on a study of the conditions and attitudes of young people in Maryland between the ages of 16 and 24. The report is based on interviews with 13,528 young people in that State - a sample which, it is believed, exhibits in many respects the characteristics of the youth population of the nation - and is devoted to 6 major topics: Youth and the Home, Youth and the School, Youth at Work, Youth at Play, Youth and the Church, and Attitudes.

Among 13,528 young people, there were 2,113 whose fathers were farm owners or tenants and 504 whose fathers were farm laborers. On most of the factors considered, farm youth were found to differ considerably from the other young people studied. Farm youth reported the smallest proportion who considered themselves church members; also, among this group the percentage who think their wages are too low and those who favor Government regulation of minimum wages and maximum hours is lower than among other groups. But more than half of them believed that the Government should not permit labor of children 14 and 15 years old, whereas less than half of the total expressed this opinion. The farm youth provided a larger proportion that were uncertain or gave no response than did any other group.

In general, the young people from farm families were found to enjoy fewer advantages than their fellows. They received more education than children of unskilled laborers, but less than other groups. Children of farm laborers received the smallest amount of education. About two-fifths of all out-of-school youth had not gone beyond the eighth grade, but one-half of the children of farm operators; and almost seven-eighths of those of farm laborers, were in that group. Only 7 percent of the out-of-school youth in farm families who desired vocational training mentioned agriculture; most of the others shared the preference for professional and business work or trade and crafts.

Youth working on farms reported lower wages and longer hours than any other group. Children of farm laborers received their first full-time jobs at the lowest average age but for children of farm owners and tenants, the average age at securing the first job was about the same as that for all youth. Employed children of farm laborers had the smallest average earnings; those of farm owners and tenants ranked third from the bottom in this respect.

Correlated with the educational and economic disadvantages of farm youth was a disadvantage in formal social activities; three-fourths of all young people belonged to no club, but among young people on farms, this proportion was seven-eighths. Three-fifths of the white and 97 percent of the Negro farm youth reported no library facilities, but virtually none of those who reported that libraries were available had actually used them.

Man-Land Adjustment in Wisconsin

Analysis of the families in a Land-Purchase Area in central Wisconsin shows that the major problem was not so much an area-wide problem in the purchase area as it was a number of varied problems related to various groups of families and that transfer to a different land base could not of itself raise the standards of living for the families in greatest need. If, for example, the aged relief families, the non-farm families with their high relief incidence, and the broken families could be provided for, there would be left in the area a group of families largely self-supporting and clustered together for the most part in successfully integrated neighborhoods. A study of farm families in these and other areas makes it quite evident that success or failure in farming and in living is highly correlated with the initiative, industry, and even the composition of families as well as with their adjustments to soil, climate, and other physical factors. For some families neither material possessions nor the hard work and industry which make them possible have any appeal. They continue to "get along" by reducing expenditures to the absolute minimum and when necessary by applying for public assistance.

The relocation of such families would only shift their problems of internal family adjustment to another area. Those families which would seem most likely to profit by relocation were the 58 families which most nearly met the selective qualifications. These were the families who already seemed to be succeeding and in many ways were living nearly on a par with the families in the area into which it was proposed to move them. Families with the lower levels of living and with the greater needs were not eligible for assistance under the proposed projects. Even for the families which would probably have the fewest problems in adjusting to the new farms it appears that many of the older families depended quite heavily upon the younger ones for help, as is shown by patterns of mutual aid, visiting, and exchange of work.

These are some of the conclusions from a study of 147 families in a Land-Purchase Area and 236 families in the area in which it was proposed to relocate a part of these families. The study took into account levels of living, family characteristics, neighborhood patterns, patterns of visiting, exchange of work, mutual aid, town-country relationships, attitudes toward farming, and probable success in readjustment.

"Man-Land Adjustment, A Study of Family and Inter-Family Aspects of Land Retirement in the Central Wisconsin Land-Purchase Area," Geo. W. Hill, Walter Slocum, Ruth O. Hill, Research Bull. No. 134, Agr. Exp. Sta., University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, February 1938, 80 pp.

Standard of Living of Farm Families in Michigan

In this study the emphasis was placed upon family and farm practices, home equipment and surroundings, educational activities and achievements of youth and adults, membership and participation in institutions and special-interest groups, and use of leisure. Data were obtained from 376 farm families in five different types of agricultural communities. More than half of the 83 items contributing to a high standard of living required little or no cash outlay but depended primarily upon the use of time.

The families rating highest in standard of living also scored highest in farm practices. Standard of living and farm practices were more closely correlated than were standards of living and income. The average standard-of-living score for 240 relatively homogeneous families was 511 points - ranging from 179 to 884. Additional years of schooling of the parents and of the children were associated with relatively higher standard-of-living scores, and also with the relatively higher farm-practice scores.

"The Standard of Living of Farm Families in Selected Michigan Communities," Eben Mumford, J. F. Thaden, and Margaret Cawood Spurway, Special Bulletin 287, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, East Lansing, October, 1937, 47 pp.

High-School Communities in Michigan

This study involved a mapping of the 6,671 school districts and the 533 high-school communities (attendance areas) in Michigan.

Some 37,000 high-school tuition pupils from the non-twelve-grade school districts, are attending the 533 four-year secondary schools. The average high school is attended by pupils from 13 school districts. There are 69 high schools which are attended by pupils who come from 25 to as many as 63 districts. In Lower Michigan, the average twelve-grade school district covers 13 square miles but serves an area of 88 square miles.

The area of high-school communities is closely related to population density. As a rule, they are five times as large in the 12 counties with fewer than 10 persons per square mile as in the 5 counties with 200 or more persons.

The attendance areas of nearly half of the 12-grade schools cover parts of two or more counties; 51 cover parts of three counties, and some cover parts of four or more counties.

In the average high school with an enrollment under 200 pupils, 45 percent of them are non-resident. Non-resident pupils outnumbered the resident pupils in 43 percent of the high schools during the period of 1920-1931.

"High School Communities in Michigan," J. F. Thaden and Eben Mumford, Special Bulletin 289, Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station, East Lansing, January 1938, 36 pp.

Levels of Living in South Dakota

Farm families in South Dakota had a higher level of living than village families, according to a survey of 1,101 farm and 774 village families in 1935. The total value of family living was \$1,111 per family on farms and \$874 per family in villages. The greatest difference between farm and village families was in the value of food consumed, \$484 per farm family and only \$279 per village family. But farm families produced three-fifths of their food at home, milk, pork, butter, and cream being most important. Village families produced only 9 percent of their food at home, chiefly milk, eggs, vegetables, and poultry. The amounts spent by farm and village families for items other than food were nearly the same, though farm families spent slightly more than village families for housing and maintenance, clothing, health, and automobiles. Farm families used a larger proportion of their incomes for food and automobiles, whereas the village families had larger proportions for housing and maintenance, clothing, advancement, and health.

Size of family and income directly affected the proportion of expenditures for food and for housing and maintenance. There was also some indication that the families with higher educational attainments had a somewhat higher standard of living.

Only a small proportion of rural families had running water, electric lights, central heating systems, or telephones. The larger farms usually had more of such conveniences than the smaller farms in the same area. Farm owners had a greater value of goods and services, and home owners in villages exceeded their neighbors who did not own their homes. The average amounts of savings and investments varied widely in the 25 sample areas in six counties in the State, but in general owners exceeded tenants and village families exceeded those on farms. With rising incomes, the proportions spent for food and housing and maintenance decreased while the proportions spent for automobiles, health, and advancement increased. There was least change in the proportions spent for clothing and incidentals.

"The Standard of Living of Farm and Village Families in Six South Dakota Counties, 1935," W. F. Kumlien, and others, Bull. No. 320, Agricultural Experiment Station, Brookings, South Dakota, March 1938, 63 pp.

Part-Time Farming in Virginia

The part-time farmer in 7 Virginia counties enjoyed lower costs of living, greater gross annual incomes (though smaller industrial income), greater freedom, and more healthful surroundings than the full-time industrial worker. He was more interested in organizational and community activities, was somewhat older, had a larger family, and had had somewhat less schooling. The chief advantages in full-time industrial employment were the greater number of household conveniences available and shorter distances to place of employment, amusement centers, and markets.

This information was obtained from nearly 4,800 families, of whom half were part-time farmers and half were full-time industrial workers. Part-time farmers were those who operated farms of three-fourths of an acre or more in size (or produced \$50 or more in farm products), and as heads of households were able-bodied males 18 to 64 years of age who worked 50 days or more off the farm.

The average part-time farmer was 42 years old, had been in school for 7 years, and had farmed for 16. The chief contribution to the family living from the farm were the products of the home garden of .68 acre. For those who reported flocks, poultry was second in importance. Meat and dairy products were also valuable contributions of the part-time enterprise, but only 55 percent of the white operators kept hogs, 46 percent owned cows, and 69 percent kept chickens. Almost the entire labor of the average farm was performed by the part-time operator and his family and expenses for labor and supplies were small.

The authors conclude: "It is apparent that under present conditions there will inevitably be a widespread and significant expansion of part-time farming in Virginia."

"Part-Time Farming in Virginia," B. L. Hummel
and R. B. Hummel, Virginia Polytechnic Institute,
Blacksburg, Virginia, 1938, 89 pp.

The Extent of Dependency upon Old Age Assistance in South Dakota

Approximately 40 percent of all persons 65 years old and over in South Dakota had been accepted for Old Age Assistance in 1937, the ratio being slightly higher for rural and slightly lower for urban residents. A description of accepted and rejected applicants for this assistance - age, residence, nativity, marital status, and citizenship - is given in

"The Extent of Dependency upon Old Age Assistance
in South Dakota," John P. Johansen, Bull. No. 318,
Agricultural Experiment Station and South Dakota
Works Progress Administration, Brookings, Feb-
ruary 1938, 47 pp.

Beltrami Island, Minnesota

Beltrami Island, Minnesota, was chosen in 1934 for an experiment in settler relocation within the Cut-Over Area "because the need for evacuation was obvious and the nearness of an area of better soils would make possible the minimum of social readjustment involved in any move." Although living off the country supplied the minimum physical needs for food, clothing, and shelter of the approximately 300 families, they lacked sufficient cash income to obtain adequate public services. Tax delinquencies were so high that schools and roads were almost entirely supported by the State and people outside the area. There was practically no education beyond the grade-school level. Medical service was distant, often unavailable, and churches lacked adequate support. The people in this area absorbed annually from 20 to 30 thousand dollars more than they paid in taxes.

The plan for purchase and resettlement involved a system of appraisal according to the public benefit of evacuation of the area, adjustment of debts, resettlement with the lightest possible debt load, a grubstake, and the maximum of choice for the client in planning and farm development.

Resettlement was by infiltration into other established communities. The people who were capable of continuing in farming have been placed on demonstrably better soil, their financial condition has been definitely improved, and they can now obtain the public services which they could not afford previously. Families unable to support themselves were moved to retirement homes outside the area. Although most of the resettlement families moved singly, there were a number who moved by pairs, and in a few instances four families who had been neighbors in the evacuation area moved to the same neighborhood in the resettlement area.

"Beltrami Island, Minnesota," R. W. Murchie and
C. R. Wasson, Bull. No. 334, Agr. Exp. Sta., Uni-
versity of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn., December 1937,
48 pp.

Sickness and Medical Care in the Ozarks

During the 12-month period preceding May 1936, 52 percent of the families in a rural area in the Ozarks had used the services of a physician, 15 percent had received dental services, 12 percent practical nursing service, and 5 percent hospital service. All families used some unprescribed medicines, 39 percent used prescribed medicines, and 33 percent herb remedies.

A study of the families grouped according to income levels indicated that the families with larger incomes were in better health and had had fewer illnesses than those with smaller incomes. Also, a greater percentage of their illnesses had been given professional attention, and they had spent more per family for medical care than people at the lower income levels. Only 14 percent of the higher income group were in debt for medical care as compared with 45 percent in the low income group. People who lived within one mile of a doctor used his services in a greater percentage of their illness than those who lived farther away, and they averaged more calls per case. Mountain families had fewer sicknesses per family and used the doctor's services to a smaller extent than those in village or valley, but they had the greatest indebtedness for medical care. "The tenants and laborers, who ordinarily had large families and low incomes, had a high sickness rate per family but had a relatively low proportion of their sicknesses attended by a physician. The mountain, tenant, and laborer families used herb remedies to a greater extent than those families that were able to pay for professional attention. People who lived outside the village showed a relative lack of dental attention."

This information is taken from the report of a study of 322 families with a total membership of 1,292 persons in the Hindsville Community, Madison County, Arkansas.

"Sickness and Medical Care in an Ozark Area in Arkansas," Isabella C. Wilson and William H. Metzler, Bull. No. 353, Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, April 1938, 39 pp.

Membership of Farmers in New York Organizations

A study of 2,925 New York farm operators reports that these operators belonged to an average of 1.3 organizations. Twenty percent belonged to none, about one-third belonged to only one, but only 10 percent reported four or more. Though belonging to only one or two organizations on the average, these farmers rarely drop membership. The organizations reported most frequently, either alone or in combination, are Church, Grange, Dairymen's League, and Farm Bureau. Members of several organizations are likely to be distinguished from those belonging to none or only one by ownership of the farm operated rather than rental, operation of a larger farm with higher assessed value, stability of residence rather than frequent shifting, and better schooling.

"The Membership of Farmers in New York Organizations," W. A. Anderson, Bull. No. 695, Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station, Ithaca, New York, April 1938, 28 pp.

EXTENSION REPORTS

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Analysis of Programs in Virginia

In connection with the extensive program-planning activities conducted under the auspices of the Agricultural Extension Service in Virginia, an analysis of the programs of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and of rehabilitation has been carried on.

The analysis of the operation of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration program in five representative counties in the State of Virginia during the period, 1935-37, considers the number and type of farms included in the program each year, their apparent need of adjustment in agricultural practices, the practices adopted, and the influence of sources. The study includes data for non-signers in 1937.

The study of 1,262 rehabilitation cases is based on a one-fourth sample of all cases in the State during 1937. This study includes social and economic data on each of these cases with enough background data to show the status of the cases at the time of their acceptance, and a sufficient analysis to show the basic changes that have taken place in their social and economic status during the three years in which they have acted in cooperation with the Farm Security Administration.

Discussion Groups in Montana

The Montana Extension Service, with the assistance of persons in the department of agricultural economics and the State land utilization specialist, has discussion groups in the majority of counties throughout the State. The purpose of these groups is to get the people in the community to study their agricultural problems. By actually mapping land delinquency, soil type, land ownership, soil-erosion areas, and other characteristics, they arrive at some explanation of the conditions in which they find themselves at the present time. It is hoped that at these meetings the people will become conscious of their problems and take steps to remedy them.

Rutgers Youth Institute

The Rutgers Youth Institute, a new event on the Extension Rural Sociologist's calendar, was conducted in New Brunswick July 6-8. The theme for the conference was "Horizons for Youth." Separate discussions of educational, vocational, and social horizons were interspersed with social activities. Among the young people who attended were official delegates from several subordinate Granges, from vocational-agricultural groups, and 4-H Club groups. The event was received very favorably in all quarters and is expected to become an annual occurrence.

Extension Work in Kentucky

More than 250 pastors and lay leaders representing 14 denominations and 60 counties located in all sections of Kentucky attended one or more of the sessions of the pastors' short course which was conducted at the College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, April 25-29. The attendance at the sessions of the five days averaged more than 70 persons. The guest lecturers were Dr. M. A. Dawber of New York City, Dr. Paul L. Vogt of Washington, D. C., and Dr. O. E. Baker of Washington, D. C. Numerous churches sent their own pastors, paying their expenses, while several denominational boards furnished groups of scholarships which provided for all or part of the expenses of the pastors receiving the scholarships. In other cases scholarships were furnished by individual church members.

Short Course for Pastors at Pennsylvania State College

A Short Course for Town and Country Pastors was held at the Pennsylvania State College July 25-30 in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Council of Churches and the Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association. A similar course was conducted in the summer of 1921, then funds gave out, preventing continuance. Many requests have been received in recent years for the renewal of this work. Next year it is planned to increase the course to 10 or 12 days, and to present a broader curriculum.

1938 Summer Leaders School in Wisconsin

The 17th annual Town and Country Leadership Summer School held at the College of Agriculture, under the sponsorship of the Rural Sociology Department, was just terminated with 75 students enrolled, representing 6 different church groups and coming from about 20 States. Eight people, including five from Wisconsin, completed the 3-year cycle of work and qualified for the certificate presented by the University of Wisconsin.

Discussion Groups in Maryland

During the 12-month period, July 1, 1937-June 30, 1938, 87 discussion groups met in 17 of the 23 counties in the State of Maryland. These groups, representing the Farm Bureau, Grange, Homemakers' Clubs, and some others, held 303 discussions with a total attendance of 4,175 persons. In addition to these group discussions, 14 conferences were held in various parts of the State for the purpose of training county and lay discussion leaders.

Farm Organizations Consider Relationship with Industry and Labor

The Sixth Annual Wisconsin Rural Organization Leaders' Conference, held June 14-16, had for its central themes this year, "What is Education," and "What Are and What Should Be the Relationships of Agriculture with Industry, Labor, and the Consumer?" These are felt to be two of the most vital questions in rural Wisconsin at the present time. Ninety-six delegates, representing 41 different types of education and economic organizations and governmental agencies including the Agricultural Extension Service, Farm Bureau, Grange, Farmers Equity-Union, Parent-Teacher Associations, Midland, Home Makers, Wisconsin Council of Agriculture, and county councils and federations of rural groups. The program embraced representatives from the United States Department of Agriculture, United States Chamber of Commerce, American Federation of Labor, Kiwanis, merchants, rural church, as well as the rural groups in Wisconsin and the University of Wisconsin. Although no agreement on policy was attempted, all of the different proponents expressed appreciation of the opportunity for getting together and exchanging their different viewpoints.

Study of Response to Extension Services in Michigan

During the past six months a study of the sociological factors affecting the degree of responsiveness to Agricultural Extension was begun in Michigan. Replies to a questionnaire by county agricultural agents showed that they considered lack of adequate local leadership and indifference or inertia as retarding factors in their work. Some mentioned also difficulties with certain nationality groups and difficulties with communities that cut across county lines. Intensive studies of selected areas where these problems occur are planned for the ensuing year.

DIVISIONAL AND STATE NEWS

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A Year's Work in the Division

The major new undertaking during the past year in the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life was the beginning of a research program directly related to the activities being carried on under the Land Program. For this purpose arrangements were made to establish small staffs in the Regional offices of the Land Program, and Dr. Maurice Parmelee has been added to the staff of the Washington Office. The major lines of activity which are planned include analyses of population - its composition and trends in the areas for which land-use adjustments are proposed or planned, the prevailing standards of living, and the social interrelationships and distinct cultural developments of these areas. Similar analyses are proposed for the areas in which closer settlement is to be developed. Although the work was undertaken late in the fiscal

year, a field study in an area in southern Maryland previously studied by the Land Use Planning Specialist in that State is under way. Plans for the coming year involve close cooperation between this Division and the Divisions of Farm Management and Land Economics.

As heretofore, the staff of the Division cooperated closely with that of the Social Research Unit of the Farm Security Administration, both units being under the direction of Dr. Carl C. Taylor. Among the projects on which work was completed and for which reports have been issued are: Disadvantaged Classes in American Agriculture, Social Status and Farm Tenure - Attitudes and Social Conditions of Corn Belt and Cotton Belt Farmers, Living Conditions and Population Migration in Four Southern Appalachian Counties, A Basis for Social Planning in Coffee County, Alabama, and Family Selection on a Federal Reclamation Project. Nearly 4,000 copies of each of these have been distributed and a new edition of Disadvantaged Classes in American Agriculture is being prepared. A Farmers' Bulletin on Rural Hospitals was issued and more than 10,000 copies distributed. A series of 11 bulletins on farm-labor conditions in selected counties in 11 States has been issued in editions of 2,000 each. In cooperation with the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station a bulletin on Standards of Living in that State has been issued. Work on the Graphic Summary of American Agriculture was completed. Seven thousand copies of the Graphic Summary of Farm Labor and Population have been distributed. The Division has also continued to issue its regular publications, Farm Population Estimates, January 1, 1938, A Directory of Personnel in Rural Sociology, which lists workers in the field of 524 institutions, and Farm Population and Rural Life Activities, of which approximately 1,400 copies are distributed quarterly. Members of the Division Staff have also contributed to publications outside the Department.

In addition, work has been completed on 7 reports for which publication is expected soon: An Analysis of 70,000 Rural Rehabilitation Families, Influence of Drought and Depression on a Rural Community, Social Relationships and Institutions in an Established Rural Community, and reports on studies of standards of living in: Four Southern Appalachian Mountain Counties, Seven Rural Resettlement Communities, the Great Lakes Cut-Over Area, and an Indian-Mexican Village and a Reclamation Project.

Other projects for which early completion is expected include: Migration and Mobility of the Rural Population in the United States, Social Relationships and Institutions in Seven New Rural Communities, Standards of Living in Six Virginia Counties, and a study of farm-labor conditions in selected areas in North Carolina.

In addition to the annual estimates of farm population prepared by the Division, cooperative agreements were set up with the Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, North

Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Washington Agricultural Experiment Stations, for the preparation of State estimates and the testing of methods. These cooperative projects have already suggested a number of techniques for making the national estimates, as well as demonstrating that certain techniques previously suggested are not satisfactory. A number of States have experimented with the use of carefully selected sample areas, and this promises to become the most useful approach.

A total of 21 cooperative agreements have been entered into between the Division and State Colleges of Agriculture. Most of these projects provide for cooperative work with reference to estimates of Farm Population, but two of them deal with farm labor, two deal with selective rural-urban migration, one with rural youth, one with an analysis of the population of North Dakota, one deals with a study of attitudes of farm people, and one with the social aspects of farm-land tenure.

At the beginning of a new year, the continuing and new projects of the Division are: 1. Farm population estimates, including the cooperative projects with a number of States and the cooperation with the proposed annual economic surveys; 2. Studies of standards of living, particularly in cooperation with the Land Program; 3. Study of membership relations and changing programs and functions of farmers' programs; 4. A study of disadvantaged classes in American agriculture, including (a) a study of conditions under which non-commercial farm families are living and techniques proposed for their rehabilitation; (b) standards of living and social participation of farm laborers; (c) social aspects of farm land tenure; 5. The definition and analysis of rural cultural areas to show the inter-relationships of historical, ethnological, geological, economic, and institutional factors in their development, particularly with reference to the land program; 6. The summary of the evaluation of American agriculture as requested by the Secretary; 7. Studies of farmers' attitudes; 8. Studies of composition and trends of the rural and farm population, especially in relation to the Land Program; 9. Social factors in County Agricultural Land Use Planning; and 10. Studies of contemporary communities.

Division Notes

"My Drift into Rural Sociology," by C. J. Galpin, has been issued as Rural Sociological Monograph No. 1 by the Louisiana State University Press. In addition to the articles previously published in Rural Sociology, Dr. Galpin has inserted a chapter on his contacts with rural life abroad. The correspondence between Dr. Galpin and Sir Horace Plunkett is also included.

A survey of small-grain harvest labor in North Dakota will start the week of July 18 under supervision of Josiah C. Folsom, Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, and Robert M. Cullum, Labor Relation Representative,

Farm Security Administration, Lincoln, Nebraska. The North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station will cooperate in the study. The enumerators will follow the progress of the harvest in Bottineau, Cass, Hettinger, McLean, Stutsman, Walsh, and Williams Counties, taking schedules of harvest laborers of all classes. Some enumerators will interview transient laborers as they pass through concentration points in these and other counties in their search for harvest jobs. Information will be asked of the laborers concerning their education, occupational and harvest experience, and participation in community social life. After the harvest and threshing season is largely over, the enumerators will revisit their territories to obtain from farm operators reports concerning their use of labor for the season. Tabulation will be carried on through the cooperation of the Works Progress Administration.

Proceedings of the nineteenth National Country Life Conference have been published for the American Country Life Association by the University of Chicago Press. M. L. Wilson gave the presidential address, "Education for Democracy," and Carl C. Taylor gave a paper on "Attaining a National Policy and Program of Conservation." This is a report of the conference held at Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 10-13, 1936.

State Notes

At the University of Wisconsin, A. F. Wileden, who for several years has been working in the extension field, will give part time to teaching and part time to research during the second semester of next year. He will offer a course in group extension methods. New appointments in Rural Sociology are: Rockwell C. Smith, from Massachusetts and Walter L. Slocum from South Dakota as Research Assistants; Clark L. Loomis from Illinois as Teaching Assistant; and Harold T. Christensen from Utah as Agricultural College Fellow. J. H. Kolb, chairman of the Department of Rural Sociology, who has been on leave since January, in New Zealand, will return to Wisconsin in September in time for the beginning of the fall semester at the University. He has been working with the Provincial Government of New Zealand in the establishment of a Social Research Bureau.

Carle C. Zimmerman is taking his Sabbatical leave the first half of 1938-39, returning in February 1939. He is completing phases of the field work upon a study of the "Unchanging Community." It is a study of ethnocentrism in typical villages or towns of Germany, England, Massachusetts, New York, and Missouri. Harpers announce the first volume of these studies, "The Changing Community," to be published in September. It deals with communities in North Carolina, Missouri, Minnesota, the Canadian Prairie Provinces, and New England. It gives an analysis of the theme histories or "personalities" of a number of types of communities.

The General Education Board has granted funds to Louisiana State University for use during the period 1938-1940 in strengthening its graduate work and research in agricultural economics and rural sociology. Fellow-

ships have been awarded to Clinton L. Folse of Louisiana State University, J. W. Rion of Clemson College, and Robert T. McMillan of Oklahoma A. and M. College, for graduate study in rural sociology at Louisiana State University during the session 1938-39, and to Vernon J. Parenton, assistant in rural sociology at Louisiana State University, for graduate study at Harvard during the session 1938-39.

Dr. Rudolf Heberle of the University of Kiel, Germany, entered upon his duties as Professor of Sociology at Louisiana State University on July 1, 1938.

On July 7-9, some 65 educators from over the State of Louisiana met for a 3-day conference on Education and Race Relations at Louisiana State University. This conference was arranged and directed by Dr. R. B. Eleazer, Secretary of the Interracial Commission, and Dean Fred C. Frey of Louisiana State University.

The general theme of the 10th annual session of the Institute of Rural Affairs of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute meeting July 26-28 will be, "Planning for Rural Living." Among the topics to be stressed are: the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, population questions, rural-youth problems, problems of land use, and planning for rural life. "The Population Problems of the South" will be discussed by Dr. Frank Lorimer of the Population Association of America. W. E. Garnett will report on some of the population research work of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station. This is the second meeting of the Institute in which population questions were a feature of the program.

The ninth annual meeting of the Virginia Rural Ministers' Summer School was held at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute July 4-13.

The Virginia Polytechnic Institute has recently received a grant from the General Education Board for the development of work in agricultural economics and rural sociology, \$25,000 of which will be devoted to building up a library in these fields.

Personnel changes at the University of Tennessee include the following: E. E. Briner has resigned to accept a position with the U. S. Soil Conservation Service. Ben T. Lanham, Jr., has received an appointment as Assistant at Iowa State College for 1938-39. Frank M. Fitzgerald has been appointed Assistant Supervisor of Rural Research at the University of Tennessee. John E. Mason, State Land Planning Specialist located at the University of Tennessee, will do graduate work in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology at the University of Minnesota during the coming year.

At the University of Missouri Dr. C. E. Lively assumed his duties as Professor of Sociology and Head of the Department of Rural Sociology at the beginning of the summer term; Mr. Ronald B. Almack, formerly of

Ohio State University, has been appointed Research Assistant in Rural Sociology.

The University of Maine will begin teaching rural sociology this coming school year. A 3-credit introductory course is to be offered by the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management by Professor E. J. Niederfrank, who has been on the agricultural economics staff at the University since 1935. Professor Niederfrank did his college work at Oregon State College and has studied rural sociology at Iowa State and the University of Wisconsin. It is planned also to carry on research and extension work in rural sociology in the near future.

Dr. Eben Mumford has retired from the faculty of Michigan State College after 25 years of service there.

Dr. Paul Honigsheim, formerly of the University of Cologne and at present a member of the faculty of Panama University, has been granted a year's leave of absence and will join the faculty of Michigan State College in September. He will have half-time teaching and half-time research work.

Professor Ernest B. Harper is supervising an extensive study in southwest Michigan of the attitudes of people toward the Emergency Relief Administration in an attempt to discover some of the processes and forces involved in the institutionalization of such an organization. The Department of Sociology at Michigan State College is also starting a study of community adaptations to population changes in cooperation with the University of Michigan and the conservation institutes of both institutions.

After serving as Acting State Leader of 4-H Club Work in New Jersey during the past year, Howard W. Beers, Associate Professor of Rural Sociology and Extension Rural Sociologist at Rutgers University has been named State Leader of 4-H Club Work. Dr. Beers will continue to serve as Head of the Department of Rural Sociology.

Rehabilitation records for a sample of 5,000 clients in Arkansas are being checked in a cooperative study by the Farm Security Administration, the Works Progress Administration, and the University of Arkansas. The purpose is to discover how many of these clients have already been re-established in their own farming enterprises, how many have made some progress, how many are slowly getting more deeply into debt, and how many have been closed out as failures. Some field work will be carried on in relation to the records in order to check on the status of families who are no longer in the program.

The Bureau of the Census announces that on Jan. 1, 1938, the proportion of all farms reporting migrants to farms during the preceding 5 years was nearly the same as it had been on Jan. 1, 1935, in the same counties. These findings are based on the 3,000 farms surveyed with the schedule prepared for the 1940 Census. Nearly one-ninth of the farms reported the presence of one or more persons who had not been on farms 5

years previously, and the average number of such persons per farm reporting was 3.

"Rural Relief Needs" was one of the subjects dealt with in The Hearings Before the Special Committee of the United States Senate to Investigate Unemployment and Relief. Volume 2 of the Hearings, covering Feb. 28-April 8, 1938, includes testimony on this subject by Secretary Wallace and Undersecretary Wilson, H. H. Bennett, W. H. Brokaw, L. R. Simons, Paul S. Taylor, Rupert B. Vance, and Carle C. Zimmerman.

SPECIAL ITEMS

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Recent Migration into the Pacific Northwest

The total migration from drought areas into the rural communities of the Pacific Northwest in the period 1930-1937 is estimated at 36,000 families according to a report of the Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Commission, issued in May 1938. This brief survey discusses movement to rural and urban areas, the possibility of continued migration, and problems of settlement, and also recommends a program for action. This program includes speeding up irrigation work, a survey of lands suitable for agricultural use, provision of public credit to selected settlers, modification of relief regulations, expansion of industrial employment, the promotion of soil and water conservation, and the use of fertilizers.

People of Arizona Irrigated Areas

A recent report on the people of Arizona irrigated areas states:

"All but about 32 percent of the rural people on Arizona irrigated areas learned their ways of living and of farming in the "Dust Bowl", the Western Cotton Belt, the Old South, and Mexico. Of the remainder, less than one-half are native Arizonians. Influences of rural ways of living in other regions are still predominant in Arizona rural life. Almost one-half of the heads of rural households were unskilled laborers, the greater part being laborers on farms."

Virginia Farm Folk

A report entitled "Virginia Farm Folk - Conditions, Trends, and Challenges," by W. E. Garnett and Mary Bersch, has just been issued as Rural Sociology mimeographed report No. 6 by the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station. This was prepared for the annual conference of agricultural and home economics teachers held at Blacksburg, June 27-July 1, 1938.

Migration into Oregon

The minimum net gain by migration into Oregon between 1930 and 1937 is estimated at 81,530 in a report on migration into Oregon published by the Oregon State Planning Board. In two selected samples covering between 50 and 60 percent of the State's population, 116,000 persons who had come into the State between January 1, 1930, and June 30, 1937, were found. Of these, all but 7,000 had come in before the beginning of 1937. Migration into the State is still continuing. Oregon's rural and urban areas apparently have gained about equally from this migration. According to this study, the population of the State on January 1, 1937, was 1,057,700, an increase of 104,000 since 1930. The average annual increase of 13,806 since 1930 is less than that observed between 1920 and 1930 when it was 17,095. During the five years ending in 1935, the yearly increase was only 8,000, but during 1935 and 1936 it rose to 28,000 per year. Approximately seven-eighths of the migrants were less than 45 years of age when they entered the State.

Demand for Agricultural Labor in Oregon

The Oregon State Planning Board has recently completed a study of the demand for agricultural labor in Oregon. The survey shows statistically, graphically, and narratively seasonal requirements for agricultural labor in the State, by counties and districts, for 28 major field crops and horticultural enterprises and for 8 major livestock enterprises. The labor needs of the State reach a peak of 22,712,000 man hours in July with minor peaks occurring in March and in September; the smallest demand is in January when 8,370,000 man hours are required.

Population in Manitoba

Although the farm population of Manitoba as a whole showed an increase in 1936 as compared with 1931, there were net losses in some localities. During this period, the net emigration from the province of Manitoba was over 25,000 persons, and the net emigration from the prairie provinces probably exceeded 90,000. This emigration was particularly noticeable in the case of youths and men between the ages of 18 and 30. There has, however, been a continuing settlement in areas which are inferior from a commercial agricultural standpoint. In common with other American and western European countries, Manitoba has been experiencing a steady decline in birth rates during a period of at least 15 years.

These are some of the findings of a study of "The Population of Manitoba," a study undertaken "not only to learn more of the people who constitute the province of Manitoba, but also to study their reaction to the natural resources of Manitoba and their economic development to date."

Radio Research

Eighty-two percent of all families had at least one radio set on January 1, 1938, according to estimates made by the Joint Committee on Radio Research. In urban areas the percentage was 91; in rural areas it was only 69. The report shows rural and urban figures by States as well as total county figures.

Forums for Young People

"Choosing Our Way" - A Study of America's Forums, is the story of a Forum Program sponsored by the Office of Education and the results of a survey of 431 forums under various sponsorships. The first chapter traces the growth of the modern forum back to the early Town Meeting, and the Lyceum and Chautauqua. Chapter 2 deals with today's forums, their location, when they were established, and the types of communities served. Other chapters deal with management, leadership, promotion, public response, planning forum programs, and the significance of public discussion. There is included a list of more than 700 existing forums with names, addresses, names of director, types of sponsorship, and attendance.

A study of forums for young people outlining forum programs for high schools and colleges, and also for young people on a community-wide basis has also been issued by the Office of Education.

Nebraska's Population

"Nebraska's Population" is the subject of a report published by the Nebraska State Planning Board, which shows growth and distribution of the population, color, nativity, and origin, age, sex, vital statistics, marital status, families, and occupation. Fifty-seven tables and 41 charts and maps are included.

National Rural Forum

"Disadvantaged People in Rural Life" is the topic for the National Rural Forum to be held under the auspices of the American Country Life Association, November 2-4, 1938, at Lexington, Kentucky. This topic will be discussed under the following headings:

- "People on Low Income Farms"
- "People on Poor Lands"
- "Laborers on Farms"
- "Tenants and Share Croppers"

Part of the first day's meetings will be devoted to a National Rural Home Conference, discussing the topic, "The Interdependence of Rural and Urban Families."

The Youth Section of the American Country Life Association will hold its meetings at the same place at the same time.

Study of Four Rural Parishes in Kansas

"A Socio-Economic Analysis of Four Rural Parishes in Nemaha County, Kansas," is an intensive study of four German-Catholic parishes in north-eastern Kansas. The survey presents the history of the area, and describes population development, farming conditions, levels of living, education, religious life, health and social welfare, and the social organization of the area.

Research Reports Completed in Virginia

The last three reports in a series of thirteen dealing with the rural relief situation in Virginia have just been completed. The reports which are just ready for distribution are: (1) Magnitude of the Rural Emergency Relief Program in Virginia, 1933-1936; (2) The Non-Relief Employment of Rural Workers on Relief in Virginia, October 1935; and (3) Six Years of Public and Private Relief in Virginia; Trends in Expenditures and Case Loads by Public and Private Agencies.

The first of a series of six county reports on a comparative study of town and country standards of living for Negro and white families in Virginia has just been completed. The summary report covering the study in all six Virginia counties is also in preparation. In addition to the usual detailed analysis of income and expenditures for various types of commodities and services, this study is characterized by analysis of five factors indicating the plane of living for the families studied. These five factors are: (1) Family unity, or the extent and way in which different members of the families act together in both work and non-work activities; (2) The recreational activities of the respective families; (3) Community participation; (4) Reading habits; and (5) Musical appreciation and production. This study represents an effort to discover more definitely the correlation between cultural and economic factors in town and country living by income, tenure, and racial groups.

Recent Releases from Bureau of the Census

According to provisional tabulation there were 2,201,609 registered births in 1937 in the United States. This figure is an increase of 56,819 over the 2,144,790 reported for 1936. The increase in the number of births produces a corresponding increase in the birth rate from 16.7 to 17.0. Highest birth rates reported are: New Mexico, 31.4; Mississippi, 25.8; Arkansas, 25.5; Utah, 24.5; and West Virginia, 22.7. Lowest rates are: New Jersey, 12.6; Delaware, 13.1; Massachusetts, 14.0; Missouri, 14.3; and New York, 14.4. Classified by place of birth the numbers are:

	1937 Provisional	1936
Total	2,201,609	2,144,790
Cities of		
100,000 or more	628,424	598,611
10,000 - 99,999	438,591	414,346
Rural	1,134,594	1,131,833

Figures by States are given in Vital Statistics, Special Reports, Vol. 5, No. 35.

Other recent releases of the Division of Vital Statistics, Bureau of the Census, include: Instruction Manual, Procedure and Rules used in the Division of Vital Statistics for Coding Mortality and Natality Transcripts and Punching Machine Tabulation Cards, May 1938. Provisional Summary of Infant Mortality for 1937, Vital Statistics - Special Reports, Vol. 5, No. 33. Vital Statistics Summary for the United States Registration Area 1936, Vital Statistics - Special Reports, Vol. 4, No. 54.

Improving Our Rural Civilization

The Youth Section of the American Country Life Association has prepared a study outline to stimulate interest in group discussion at the 1938 conference of the American Country Life Association. It treats the subject from the standpoint of major issues in present-day rural life and ways whereby young people can contribute toward betterment of conditions with first emphasis on the local community. The topics treated are:

1. What are the major issues in present-day rural life and how rapidly have they developed? 2. How can the cooperative idea be used for the improvement of rural conditions? 3. Is it true that mechanization in farming is not conducive to zestful living among rural people? 4. To what extent is "farming as a way of life" an acceptable philosophy for rural people?

New Periodicals

"Journal of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers" is being issued semiannually by the society, of which H. C. M. Case of the Illinois University and Station is secretary. The primary objective is stated as "to give to our members and readers the latest and most authoritative information available on professional farm management and rural appraising." Among the articles in the initial number is one by W. E. Grimes of the Kansas College and Station on "The Effect of Average Prices on Land Values" (pp. 13-16).

"Agricultura" is being issued bimonthly by the Secretary of Agriculture and Public Works at San Jacinto, D. F., Mexico, primarily as a medium for the publication of current scientific and technical investigations. The initial number contains, in addition to announcements and abstracts, 16 articles dealing with biotechnical investigations, hydrology, agronomy, zootechny, health of animals, agricultural economics, colonization, and meteorology.

"The Agricultural Finance Review" is being issued semiannually by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Vol. 1, No. 1, was published May 1938. Each issue, it is planned, will cover current developments and research in the field of farm credit, farm insurance, and farm taxation. It is intended that the pages of the Review shall be open to contributions from workers in the field of agricultural finance in other Government bureaus and agencies.

"The Land Policy Review" is being issued bimonthly by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The first issue was published for May-June 1938. A periodical of the same name issued in cooperation with the Division of Program Planning of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, February to May 1935 and Supplement for June of that year was superseded by the Land Policy Circular, June 1935 to April 1938, which is now superseded by the printed Land Policy Review.

Bibliographies

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has recently issued the following bibliographies:

Income, Selected References on the Concept of Income and Methods of Obtaining Income Statistics, Compiled by Margaret T. Olcott, Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 73, May 1938. 216 Titles

Agricultural Labor in the United States, 1936-1937, A Selected List of References, compiled by Esther M. Colvin and Josiah C. Folsom, under the direction of Mary G. Lacy, Librarian, Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 72, March 1938. 537 Titles

Agricultural Economics, A Selected List of References, compiled by Mary G. Lacy, Librarian, Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 1 (Revised 1938) January 1938. 281 Titles

Bibliography on Land Utilization, 1918-36, compiled by Louise O. Bercaw and Annie M. Hannay, under the direction of Mary G. Lacy, Librarian, and in cooperation with the Land Utilization Division, Resettlement Administration, Miscellaneous Publication No. 284, January 1938. 7,343 Titles

Other Bibliographies:

Consumers' Bookshelf: A Bibliography of Publications on Commodity Buying and Other Consumer Problems, Publication No. 4, Consumers' Counsel Series, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, U. S. D. A., U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1937, 100 pp.

Bibliography on Negro Labor, compiled in office of Lawrence A. Oxley, Field Representative of U. S. Employment Service, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D. C., 1937, 34 pp.

Community Forests, A Bibliography of Publications and Literature Relating to Community Forests, Division of State Cooperation, Forest Service, U. S. D. A., Washington, D. C., March 1, 1938, 14 pp.

Research Projects - Mid-West Sociological Society

A tabulation of research projects being carried on in the ten States from which the Mid-west Sociological Society draws its membership was presented by Professor J. Howell Atwood of Knox College at the meetings in Des Moines, April 21-23. The number of projects in the different categories is as follows: rural sociology, 27; community problems, 16; history and theory of sociology, 9; ethnic groups, 6; family, 6; sociology of religion, 5; sociology and social work, 5; political sociology, 4; human ecology, 3; educational sociology, 3; sociology and psychiatry, 3; criminology, 2; social psychology, 2; population, 2. A tabulation of the 27 rural projects (which constituted more than one-fourth of the total reported) showed the following distribution: public welfare (depression, relief, old age), 9; mobility and migration of population, 8; social organization, 4; youth and recreation, 3; social change, 1; family, 1; ethnic groups (nationalities), 1.

Wage Labor on Arkansas Cotton Plantations

The Division of Farm Population is cooperating with the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and the Division of Land Economics of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics in a study of wage labor on Arkansas cotton plantations.

The principal objectives of the study are to ascertain (1) the extent to which shifts have taken place in the labor organization on cotton plantations as a result of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration program, the recent trend toward mechanization, the relief system, and other factors in individual cases, and (2) the economic effects of the shifts in labor organization on the wage hands and sharecroppers resident on the plantations. Particular attention is paid to the gradual shift from the status of sharecropper to that of wage laborer by the resident labor force. Especially noticeable to the enumerators are the decreases in the cotton acreages worked by the individual sharecropper and a subsequent increase in the proportion of the total income supplied by day work.

Information obtained from wage hands and sharecroppers includes earnings from all sources for 1937, trends in cotton-acreage cash earnings, and pay ratio from 1932 to 1937. Supplementary information on labor organization, cotton acreage by amount and tenure, and land use is secured from the Agricultural Adjustment Administration records in the individual counties.

Tenant Areas in Tennessee

The 13 types of tenant areas in Tennessee are described in a bulletin under that title published by the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station as Rural Research Monograph No. 73. The major factors associated with Type of Tenant Areas are: percentages of cash renters, croppers, part-owners, Negro farmers, part-time farmers, and tenants related to landlords; size and type of farm; and value of land, buildings, and products.

Study of Labor Changes and Relief in the Cotton Belt

A re-enumeration of the plantations whose operations in 1934 were studied (see "Landlord and Tenant on the Cotton Plantation," by T. J. Woofter, Jr.) and an investigation of changes in the relief situation in the area has been undertaken by the Division of Social Research, WPA. Texas has been added to the original list of States. The purposes of the survey are to analyze the changes in operations which have taken place during the interval and to evaluate the employment and relief situations. The trend in mechanization and changes in cropping and other farm enterprises are being studied in detail with respect to their effect on the availability and utilization of labor. The current enumeration is being made in Georgia, Arkansas, North Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

Cultural Regions Within the Rural-Farm Population

The delineation of socio-economic regions and subregions for the rural-farm population of the United States on the basis of various pertinent indices has been completed by the Division of Social Research of the Works Progress Administration. Twenty-nine major regions containing 210 subregions have been delimited and mapped. A mimeographed statement of methodology has been prepared.

Ultimately cultural subregions within the rural-nonfarm population will also be delineated. A third step will be the attempt to unite the two types of groupings to obtain regions of relative homogeneity with respect to the rural-farm and rural-nonfarm population combined.

Population Trends in Minnesota

Interstate migration is the key to the future population growth or decline in Minnesota. On the basis of past trends it is estimated that Minnesota will reach its maximum population within the near future, much ahead of the rest of the nation. By 1935 three-fourths of the area of the State was no longer increasing its numbers, all of the recent population growth in the State was urban, and was due to the large migration from rural areas. Since 1920, there has also been a net migration to other States. "If employment cannot be found for those now out of work as well as for the new workers created each year by the normal increase caused by the excess of births over deaths, a lower standard of living is inevitable and migration from the State will continue as a natural corrective measure."

These are among the findings of a report on "Population Trends in Minnesota and What They Mean," issued by the Minnesota Institute of Government Research.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS
Reviewed and Received

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Federal

"The Significance of Rural People," by Henry Charles Taylor, Agricultural Missions Foundation, Inc., New York City, 1937.

Motion Pictures of the United States Department of Agriculture, 1938, Division of Motion Pictures, Extension Service, April 1938, 24 pp.

"The Classification of Cotton," prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S., May 1938, 54 pp.

"Village Dependence on Migratory Labor in the Upper Rio Grande Area," issued by Section of Human Surveys, Soil Conservation Service, Region Eight, July 1937, 53 pp.

Rural Medical Service, Bureau of Medical Economics, American Medical Association, Chicago, 1937, 80 pp.

"To What Extent Should Farms in the Northeast Produce the Family Food Supply?" by F. A. Harper, Ithaca, New York, 1938, 9 pp.

"Important Farm Labor Developments during 1937," by E. F. Loescher, San Francisco, California, 1937, 13 pp.

Proceedings of the Nineteenth Conference, National Country Life Conference, Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 10-13, 1936, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill., 1937, 153 pp.

Catholic Rural Life Objectives, Proceedings, 14th Annual Conference, 1936, National Catholic Rural Life Conference, St. Paul, Minn., 1936, 116 pp.

"Community Forests, A Bibliography of Publications and Literature Relating to Community Forests," Division of State Cooperation, Forest Service, U. S., Washington, D. C., March 1, 1938, 14 pp.

"Recent Migration into the Pacific Northwest, Land Problems, Requirements in Land Reclamation, Need for Coordinated Programs, Necessary Land Development, and Settlement Policies," Pacific Northwest Regional Planning Commission, May 1938, 38 pp.

"The Problems of a Changing Population," Report of the Committee on Population Problems to the National Resources Committee, May 1938, 306 pp.

"Effects of the Works Program on Rural Relief," by Rebecca Farnham and Irene Link, Research Monograph XIII, Division of Social Research. WPA, 1938, pp. xxiv and 115.

"The Geography of Reading: A Study of the Distribution and Status of Libraries in the United States," by Louis R. Wilson, American Library Association, Chicago, Ill., 481 pp.

"American Regionalism, A Cultural Historical Approach to National Integration," by Howard W. Odum and Harry Estill Moore, Henry Holt and Co., New York, 1938, 693 pp.

"The Church and the Agricultural Crisis," by Edmund deS. Brunner, The Pilgrim Press, Boston-Chicago, 1928.

"Power Farming and Labor Displacement in the Cotton Belt, 1937," Serial No. R.737, Parts 1 and 2, Monthly Labor Review of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Dept. of Labor, March and April 1938.

"Changes in Technology and Labor Requirements in Crop Production: Potatoes," by H. E. Knowlton, R. B. Elwood, and E. G. McKibben, National Research Project, WPA, Philadelphia, Pa., March 1938, 134 pp.

"The Disinherited Speak: Letters from Sharecroppers," Workers' Defense League for the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, New York, 1937, 29 pp.

"Financing Farmers in 1937," Circ. A-13, Farm Credit Administration, U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1938, 24 pp.

"How Fare American Youth," by Homer P. Rainey and others, D. Appleton, Century Co., 1937.

"Youth Tell Their Story," by Howard M. Bell, American Council on Education, Washington, D. C., 1938, 273 pp.

"A Socio-Economic Analysis of Four Rural Parishes in Nemaha County, Kansas," by Gilbert Francis Wolters, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., 1938.

"Estimated Number of Families Owning Radio Sets in the United States," Joint Committee on Radio Research, January 1, 1938, 26 pp.

"Choosing Our Way, A Study of America's Forums," Misc. Bull. No. 1. U. S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of Education, 1938, 118 pp.

"Forums for Young People, A Study of Problems and Plans Involved in Forum Discussion for High School and College Students and for Young People in the Community," by J. W. Studebaker, Paul H. Sheats, and Chester S. Williams, Bull. No. 25, U. S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of Education, Washington, D. C., 1937, 113 pp.

"Family Selection on a Federal Reclamation Project - Tule Lake Division of the Klamath Irrigation Project, Oregon-California," by Marie Jasny, Social Research Report No. V., U.S.D.A., June 1938, 88 pp.

"Situations, Problems, and Interests of Unmarried Rural Young People 16-25 Years of Age: Survey of Four Oregon Counties, 1936," by B. D. Joy and J. R. Beck, Extension Service Circ. 277, Dec. 1937, 41 pp.

"Situations, Problems, and Interests of Unmarried Rural Young People 16-25 Years of Age: Survey of Three Utah Counties, 1936," by B. D. Joy and D. P. Murray, Extension Service Circ. 282, Jan. 1938.

"Farmers' Purchasing Associations in Wisconsin," by Rudolph K. Froker and Joseph G. Knapp, Bull. No. 20, Cooperative Division, U. S. Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C., 1937, 118 pp.

"Improving Social Studies Instruction," Research Bull. No. 5, Research Division, National Education Association, Washington, D. C., November 1937.

"Compensation as a Means of Improving the Farm Tenancy System in Illinois," by Marshall Harris, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U.S.D.A., Jan. 1938. (mimeo.)

"Report of the Migratory Demonstration, July 1936-June 1937, A Study of the Health of 1,000 children of Migratory Agricultural Laborers in California," by Anita E. Faverman, Bureau of Child Hygiene cooperating with Children's Bureau, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Sacramento, Calif., 1937, 42 pp.

"Income, Selected References on the Concept of Income and Methods of Obtaining Income Statistics," compiled by Margaret T. Olcott, Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 73, May 1938, 216 Titles.

"Agricultural Labor in the United States, 1936-1937, A Selected List of References," compiled by Esther M. Colvin and Josiah C. Folsom, under the direction of Mary G. Lacy, Librarian, Agricultural Economics Bibliography No. 72, March 1937, 537 Titles.

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State

Arkansas

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FARM POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

Copy 1

A REVIEW OF CURRENT RESEARCH AND OTHER RELATED PROJECTS OF THE DIVISION OF FARM
POPULATION AND RURAL LIFE AND INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES COOPERATING

ISSUED QUARTERLY BY THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS.
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 15, 1938

Vol. XII. No. 4

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THEODORE B. MANNY

The untimely death of Dr. Theodore B. Manny, September 26, came as a swift stroke of misfortune to his many professional friends over the United States. It seemed just incredible that that intensely vital countenance of his was finally stilled. There is no doubt that the first reaction from the news among his associates and co-workers was great sympathy for his wife and children; the next, a feeling of personal loss and a sense of vacancy in the ranks of sociologists - especially of rural sociologists.

It must not, however, be overlooked that Theodore Manny's life was one of loyalty first of all to religion, to church, and to human welfare. Social science was only one outlet for an abounding psychic energy. In many other circles of endeavor will be found his vacant chair.

To those of us who worked side by side with Manny in the general field of agriculture and rural life, comes the memory of scene after scene, occasion after occasion - struggles to think out, to discover ways and means of understanding and advantaging rural society. These memories of the search with Manny for better and better things will now stand apart among our cherished possessions.

Some of the milestones in Dr. Manny's career follow: Born in Chicago, Illinois, March 12, 1897; graduated from a Chicago high school, 1915; B. S. in general agriculture, majoring in farm management, University of Illinois, 1918; in the U. S. Army, 1918-1919; assistant manager of field work on a large farm at Wheaton, Illinois, December 1919 to February 1921; research assistant in rural sociology with Dr. J. H. Kolb, University of Wisconsin, February 1921 to July 1923; M. S., University of Wisconsin, 1922; marriage to Miss Elsie B. Sherman, August 20, 1923; teaching and research, rural life, Hendrix College, Conway, Arkansas, 1923 to 1927; senior agricultural economist in the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, U. S. Department of Agriculture from October 1927 to October 1935 and acting head of the Division from July 1934 to October 1935; Ph. D., University of Wisconsin, 1929; Publication in Century Rural Life Series, Rural Municipalities, 1930; professor of sociology, University of Maryland from October 1935.

Dr. Manny's training at the University of Wisconsin in sociology under Ross and Kolb, in psychology and political science, gave him the implements for research into the psychic aspects of rural problems. In the U. S. Department of Agriculture, his research product in this field was notable, gaining the respect of the whole Department, as well as of the State universities and farm organizations of the States. His energy, social discernment, and eminent fairness of temper won him friends everywhere, even in the most trying social situations. It was no surprise to his fellow workers that the University of Maryland selected Dr. Manny as their sociologist, responsible for teaching and research in general and rural sociology. His work at the University of Maryland has been marked by the same humane scholarly qualities that he displayed in the special field of Government research. His short career has truly been one of brimming service, intelligent, always kindly, and of good cheer.

Charles J. Galpin

RESEARCH REPORTS

THE AMERICAN RURAL CULTURE OF THE FUTURE

What the Rural Sociologists and Agricultural Economists Think It Should and Will Be

By Carl C. Taylor and Charles P. Loomis

We are presenting here the results of a study that was made with two objectives in view, one to test a technique and the other to test opinions and attitudes on broad theories or philosophies of agriculture and rural life. The technique was crude, almost purposely so, in this first test. The statements were about as broad as could be conceived and yet be confined to the field of agriculture. 1/

What kind of a rural civilization should we have? Will present trends bring about the kind of rural culture we want? On these and related problems, 106 of the country's leading agricultural economists and rural sociologists expressed their opinions. 2/ They indicated whether or not they thought the American farm enterprise should become more self-sufficient. They gave their judgments as to whether or not it actually would become more self-sufficient. They went on record as favoring or opposing increasing mechanization of the farm enterprise. They also registered their opinions as to whether or not it would become more mechanized. Furthermore, they conveyed their opinions as to how certain existing maladjustments in agriculture might be righted.

I. To What Extent Should and/or Will the American Farmer Become Self-Sufficient?

Facing the future the rural sociologist and the agricultural economist see through different eyes. Relatively more of the sociologists envision greater independence from the market - more production for home and farm consumption. Relatively more sociologists believe this trend is desirable, and that through fostering community activities, drama, and

1/ All schedules used expressed either 5 degrees of agreement or 5 degrees of disagreement. (See Table 1 for average scores and Table 2 for distribution of reactions.)

2/ The agricultural economists and rural sociologists were ranked by qualified persons on the basis of research publications and general recognition within their respective fields. The forms on which the opinions were registered were mailed to those who ranked highest. There was practically a 100-percent return from the rural sociologists, but some 15 percent of the agricultural economists failed to reply. The economists who did return the form filled out were in most cases the ranking men in the field. Some in both groups wrote letters qualifying their reactions indicated on the mailed forms. These qualifications were all taken into consideration in tabulation.

art, the farmer can more nearly control his future than in any other way. These sociologists believe the small family-sized farm should be the goal of American agriculture even if the attainment of this goal should entail living on a small cash income. They believe increased self-sufficiency in farm living would cushion the effects of depression and therefore should be encouraged. Over half the economists share this latter view. Over four-fifths of both groups concerned believe that a peasant culture that approaches self-sufficiency is more to be desired than our share-cropper system. Following are the statements with the percentage of experts in each group who registered agreement. To find the percentage registering disagreement, subtract the percentage agreeing from 100.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Percentage Agreeing</u>		
	<u>Sociologists</u>	<u>Economists</u>	<u>Difference</u>
(1) Farmers in the future will produce relatively less for the market and relatively more for farm and home consumption	63	30	33
(2) The small family-sized farm, operated by an owner-farmer even though he has only a small cash income, should be the goal of American agriculture.	71	41	30
(3) The farmer by being more interested than at present in production for home use, recreation, home life, community activity, the cultural arts, religion, and philosophy can more nearly control his own future than in any other way.	78	49	29
(4) As self-sufficiency is increased in farm living it acts as a cushion against the effects of falling prices and unemployment in periods of economic recession. Increased self-sufficiency should therefore be encouraged.	80	69	11
(5) Even an approximately self-sufficient peasant culture is more to be desired than our sharecropper system.	87	79	8

II. Will and/or should the American Farm of the Future be More Mechanized than at Present? How are the Problems Created by Mechanization to be Solved?

Agricultural economists and rural sociologists are one in prophesying increased mechanization for American Agriculture 3/. However, almost two-thirds of the experts in both groups refused to go on record as being complete devotees of technical efficiency. They would not have agriculture pursue paths which lead to technical efficiency without giv-

3/ The rural sociologists may not be too consistent in envisioning an increase of self-sufficiency occurring simultaneously with an increase in mechanization. Compare statements (1) and (6).

ing consideration to the consequences. Two-fifths of the economists and slightly over/one-fourth of the sociologists believe that increasing mechanization and the falling birth rate will result in not more than 10 percent of the national population living on farms. 4/

Opinions were also expressed concerning ways and means of overcoming maladjustments resulting from mechanization. Relatively more sociologists than economists (85 percent and 59 percent respectively of each group) believe it desirable and feasible to set up, on part-time farms, people who are displaced by increased mechanization. Most of the experts believe it is the correct function of the Government to aid persons displaced by mechanization, but less than half of these experts believe that the Government should control the use of the cotton picker.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Percentage Agreeing</u>		
	<u>Sociologists</u>	<u>Economists</u>	<u>Difference</u>
(6) American agriculture in the future will see far more mechanization than exists at present.	93	92	1
(7) Agricultural production should be made technically as efficient as possible regardless of the effects on farm life or on the people now living on the farms.	35	37	2
(8) Increase in mechanization and the falling birth rate ultimately will result in not more than 10 percent of the national population living on farms engaged in agricultural production	27	41	14
(9) For persons displaced from agriculture by increased mechanization, it is desirable and feasible to set them up on part-time farms established where their occupants could combine industrial employment with sufficient agricultural production to provide much of their family needs.	85	59	26
(10) If mechanization throws thousands of rural people out of work, it is the correct function of the Government to grant aid to those who have thus become unemployed.	88	80	8
(11) The use of such a mechanical device as the cotton picker should be controlled by the Government because it threatens the security of thousands of people.	44	40	4

4/ The percentage living on farms is now about 25. Some four correspondents crossed out the 10 percent and inserted 15 percent.

III. What are the Major Issues in Agriculture and
How can the Existing Maladjustments be Eliminated?

Most economists believe the major issues of agriculture are economic and that better farm management and marketing practices must be introduced. Few of the sociologists held this view. A negligible number of either group think the agricultural problem will be solved by complete application of the physical and biological sciences. Less than half of each group believe that increasing the farmer's purchasing power is the only practical way to raise his level of living.

Both groups believe greater Government control over the economic and social behavior of individuals will be necessary in the future. The Government should sponsor adult education through schools similar to the Danish folk schools. Where desirable, land should be returned to forests; the people now occupying it should be reimbursed and moved off. One of the great tasks before the Nation in the next quarter of a century is to check the drift toward tenancy and restore ownership of farms to the tillers of the soil. Most of the sociologists subscribe to this last statement - only two-thirds of the economists.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Percentages Agreeing</u>		
	<u>Sociologists</u>	<u>Economists</u>	<u>Difference</u>
(12) The major issues in agriculture are economic and must be solved by better farm management and marketing practices.	27	72	45
(13) The agricultural problem in the United States will ultimately be solved by the complete application of the physical and biological sciences.	3	3	0
(14) The only practical way to elevate the farmer's level of living is to increase his purchasing power.	41	49	8
(15) As society becomes more complex, that is, the people and classes within society become more interdependent, there must be greater Governmental society control over the economic and social behavior of individuals and classes within society.	96	92	4
(16) The economic problems of agriculture are Nation-wide and so complex that they can't be solved without Government control or regulation.	88	81	7
(17) The State and Federal Governments should sponsor a movement to introduce schools similar to the Danish folk schools.	87	82	5

(18) People living on land that should be returned to forests should be forced to evacuate these lands if they are compensated on the basis of a fair economic appraisal.	68	58	10
(19) One of the great tasks before the Nation during the next 25 years is to check the present drift toward farm tenancy and turn it into a trend which will gradually restore the ownership of farms to those who till the soil.	91	66	25

IV. Is Rural Culture Unique?

Most of the experts in both groups believe so. They believe that there are stabilizing traits in rural culture which should be preserved at almost any cost. However, more than one-fourth of the experts would favor attempting to maintain as large a portion as possible of the Nation's citizens on farms if this would entail lower material levels of living.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Percentages Agreeing</u> <u>Sociologists Economists Difference</u>		
(20) There are traits peculiar to rural culture which, because of their value as a stabilizing influence, should be retained at almost any cost.	82	71	11
(21) The simple living of farm people has always been the back bone of civilization and therefore the Nation should seek to maintain as large a portion as possible of its citizens on farms, even though it means the foregoing of the higher material standards of living they might have by moving to the city or by more completely urbanizing rural life.	36	28	8

V. The Roles of the Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Colleges in the Future

Practically to a man, the experts hold that it is the duty of the Extension Service to teach farmers to better enjoy non-work activities. They believe that in the future the agricultural colleges will develop knowledge of, and exercise leadership in, the social life of farm people, just as in

the past their efforts were turned toward farm production and management. Only a few believe that increasing activities of the Government in agriculture will result in a decrease in the activities of the Colleges of Agriculture.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Percentages Agreeing</u>		
	<u>Sociologists</u>	<u>Economists</u>	<u>Difference</u>
(22) Through the <u>Extension Service</u> the farmer should be taught to better enjoy non-work activities such as community singing, drama production, and other modes of community recreation.	97	97	0
(23) In the future, the Colleges of Agriculture will develop knowledge of, and exercise leadership in, the social life of farm people as they have in the past in the fields of production and farm management.	97	95	2
(24) As the agricultural activities of the Federal Government increase, the activities of the Colleges of Agriculture will decrease.	12	8	4

Many suggestions and criticisms were received from those who answered the questionnaires. The original schedule and the results of the study have been submitted to and commented upon by other persons. Following the tables are the two schedules. Schedule A, including statements designated "A," is the one used in the study. Schedule B, including statements designated "B" and subheads under "B," is the one revised on the basis of suggestions received and a careful study of results obtained. The authors would like to receive suggestions on Schedule "B" from readers, but would like to have readers keep in mind the idea that a comparatively short and easily filled schedule is what is being attempted.

It is possible that some readers may think that the statement of some of the questions in Schedule "A" are better than in Schedule "B"; some may be willing to offer suggested alternative statements of the same question or questions; others may think the technique too simple to be valid. Whatever the criticisms may be, the authors are anxious to receive them.

Table 1.- Opinion and Attitude Statements: 69 Sociologists and 37 Agricultural Economists, July, 1938

Statement number 1/	Percentages reporting agreement	Average score for agreement 2/	Average score for disagreement 3/	Sociologists	Economists	Difference	Sociologists	Economists
1	62.7	29.7	33.0	2.7	3.0	2.5	2.5	3.0
2	71.0	40.5	30.5	3.3	2.9	2.7	2.7	3.8
3	77.9	48.6	29.3	3.7	3.1	2.2	2.2	2.7
4	79.7	69.4	10.3	3.6	2.6	2.1	2.1	3.0
5	87.0	79.4	7.6	3.9	3.6	2.6	2.6	2.9
6	92.8	91.9	.9	4.0	3.9	2.0	2.0	2.0
7	35.3	37.1	1.8	3.0	3.4	3.8	3.8	3.5
8	26.5	41.2	14.7	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.2	2.8
9	85.3	58.8	26.5	3.0	2.9	1.9	1.9	3.4
10	88.2	80.0	8.2	3.9	4.1	3.6	3.6	3.0
11	44.1	40.0	4.1	3.8	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.8
12	26.5	72.2	45.7	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.3	2.3
13	2.9	2.8	.1	1.0	2.0	4.3	4.3	4.7
14	41.2	48.6	7.4	2.9	3.0	3.6	3.6	2.8
15	95.7	91.9	3.8	4.1	4.2	3.3	3.3	2.3
16	88.4	80.6	7.8	3.4	3.4	2.5	2.5	2.6
17	86.6	81.8	4.8	3.1	4.0	2.6	2.6	2.8
18	68.1	58.3	9.8	3.3	3.6	2.7	2.7	3.1
19	91.3	65.7	25.6	4.0	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0
20	82.4	71.4	11.0	3.8	3.3	2.5	2.5	3.2
21	36.2	27.8	8.4	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.6
22	97.1	97.2	.1	4.4	4.5	2.0	2.0	5.0
23	97.1	94.6	2.5	3.9	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.5
24	11.8	8.1	3.7	3.0	2.3	4.1	4.1	3.7

1/ For the statement to which the numbers refer, see above text.

2/ Note that 5 here is 100 percent agreement and 1 is the least possible degree of agreement.

3/ Note that 5 here is 100 percent disagreement and 1 is the least possible degree of disagreement.

Table 2.- Opinion and Attitude Statements: Percent of 106 1/ Agricultural Economists and Rural Sociologists, registering degrees of agreement and disagreement, July 1938.

Statement number	Agreement					Disagreement				
	: Complete					: Least				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	53	11	7	10	15	51	16	9	12	8
2	64	10	18	11	7	42	9	4	6	14
3	70	27	14	4	12	33	10	5	12	2
4	80	21	16	10	12	25	9	3	-	4
5	87	43	14	11	9	16	6	2	3	3
6	98	49	19	8	9	8	4	2	-	1
7	37	13	2	8	8	66	10	4	12	30
8	32	6	4	10	6	70	17	11	13	20
9	78	16	10	13	15	24	8	4	4	6
10	88	49	10	5	10	15	3	3	1	6
11	44	21	3	1	9	59	14	6	9	23
12	44	8	5	9	11	60	14	6	14	16
13	3	-	-	1	2	102	8	-	9	74
14	46	6	9	6	9	59	10	7	15	23
15	100	59	14	6	6	6	2	1	1	2
16	90	33	14	7	18	15	7	1	2	3
17	85	31	14	6	17	15	5	1	5	2
18	68	20	11	7	9	37	11	6	6	9
19	86	40	13	8	10	18	5	1	4	3
20	81	34	15	7	11	22	8	-	6	6
21	35	5	4	10	4	70	15	8	16	22
22	101	71	12	4	4	3	1	-	-	1
23	102	47	13	17	11	4	1	1	-	2
24	11	2	-	2	2	94	12	3	13	53

1/ The total number of agreeing and disagreeing persons does not equal 106 for each statement because in some instances there were not tabulatable reactions.

2/ For the statement to which the numbers refer, see above text.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

OPINION AND ATTITUDE STATEMENTS

Objectives For and Trends In Agriculture

Instructions

Please register your general agreement with the statements made here by marking in one of the columns 1 to 5 and your general disagreement by marking in one of the columns 6 to 10. As an illustration, if you agree completely with the statement you should place a check mark in column 1. If you disagree completely with the statement you should put the check mark in column 10.

If you agree to some extent you should then indicate the extent to which you agree by checking column 2, 3, 4, or 5, the extent of your agreement being measured by how near the column you check is to column 1. The same rule applies in the case of your disagreement, column 6 meaning you only slightly disagree and column 10 meaning that you completely disagree.

	Complete	Disagreement	Complete
Statement	Agreement	Disagreement	Complete
	1 : 2 : 3 : 4 : 5 :	6 : 7 : 8 : 9 : 10 :	
1-A. Farmers in the future will produce relatively less for the market and relatively more for farm and home consumption.	: : : : : : :	: : : : : : :	:
1-B. Most American farmers will in the future produce relatively less for the market and relatively more for farm and home consumption.	: : : : : : :	: : : : : : :	:
2-A. The small family-sized farm, operated by an owner-farmer, even though he has only a small cash income, should be the goal of American agriculture.	: : : : : : :	: : : : : : :	:
2-B. The goal of American Agriculture should be the owner-operated, family sized farm.	: : : : : : :	: : : : : : :	:

- 3-A. The farmer by being more interested than at present in production for home use, recreation, home life, community activity, the cultural arts, religion and philosophy can more nearly control his own future than in any other way.
- 3-B. The American farmer by being more interested than at present in production for home use, and methods of increasing his level of living without additional monetary expenditures, can more nearly control his own future than in any other way.
- 4-A. As self-sufficiency is increased in farm living it acts as a cushion against the effect of falling prices and unemployment in periods of economic recession. Increased self-sufficiency should therefore be encouraged.
- 4-B. (a) As self-sufficiency is increased in farm living it acts as a cushion against the effects of falling prices and unemployment of farm people in periods of depression.
- (b) Most farmers engaged in commercial agriculture should be induced by government subsidies to become more self-sufficient.
- 5-A. Even an approximately self-sufficient peasant culture is more to be desired than our sharecropper system.
- 5-B. An approximately self-sufficient peasant culture is more to be desired than our sharecropper system.
- 6-A. American agriculture in the future will see far more mechanization than exists at present.
- 6-B. (a) The American agriculture of the future will be more mechanized than at present.
- (b) American agriculture 50 years hence will have become mechanized to the extent that at least 20 percent less man days of labor will be required on farms producing for the market than is the case at present.
- 7-A. Agricultural production should be made as technically efficient as possible regardless of the effects on farm life or on the people now living on the farms.
- 7-B. Agricultural production should be made as technically efficient as possible.
- 8-A. Increase in mechanization and the falling birth rate ultimately will result in not more than 10 percent of the national population living on farms engaged in agricultural production.
- 8-B. (a) Not more than 10 percent of the national population should live on farms which produce raw materials for the market.

- (b) An increase in part-time farming would be to the advantage of the national welfare.
 - (c) At least 35 percent of the total national population of the future should live on farms including all types.
-
- 9-A. For persons displaced from agriculture by increased mechanization, it is desirable and feasible to set them up on part-time farms established where their occupants could combine industrial employment with sufficient agricultural production to provide much of their family needs.
 - 9-B. Persons displaced from agriculture by increased mechanization should be assisted by the Government to locate on part-time farms situated at places where their occupants could combine industrial employment with sufficient agricultural production to provide part of their family needs.
 - 10-A. If mechanization throws thousands of rural people out of work, it is the correct function of the Government to grant aid to those who have thus become unemployed.
 - 10-B. If mechanization throws thousands of rural people out of work, it is a correct function of the Government to grant assistance to those who have become unemployed pending the possibility of the reemployment of such persons in private industry or agriculture.
 - 11-A. The use of such a mechanical device as the cotton picker should be controlled by the Government because it threatens the security of thousands of people.
 - 11-B. If a mechanical device such as the cotton picker should threaten the security of thousands of people, its use and sale should be controlled by the Government.
 - 12-A. The major issues in agriculture are economic and must be solved by better farm management and marketing practices.
 - 12-B. (a) The major maladjustments in agriculture are economic in nature.
(b) The major maladjustments in agriculture can best be corrected by the application of better farm management and marketing practices.
 - 13-A. The agricultural problem in the United States will ultimately be solved by the complete application of the physical and biological sciences.
 - 13-B. If all the knowledge accumulated by the physical and biological sciences were applied, most maladjustments in agriculture would be righted.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom. It is shown that the structure of the atom is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The second part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the molecule. It is shown that the structure of the molecule is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The third part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the crystal. It is shown that the structure of the crystal is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The fourth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the liquid. It is shown that the structure of the liquid is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The fifth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the gas. It is shown that the structure of the gas is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The sixth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the plasma. It is shown that the structure of the plasma is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The seventh part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the solid. It is shown that the structure of the solid is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The eighth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the liquid crystal. It is shown that the structure of the liquid crystal is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

The ninth part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the superconductor. It is shown that the structure of the superconductor is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, and that the laws of quantum mechanics are based on the principle of the conservation of energy.

- 14-A. The only practical way to elevate the farmer's level of living is to increase his purchasing power.
- 14-B. In order to elevate the farmer's level of living, no approach is as important as increasing his purchasing power.
- 15-A. As society becomes more complex, that is the people and classes within society become more interdependent, there must be greater governmental social control over the economic and social behavior of individuals and classes within society.
- 15-B. The same.
- 16-A. The economic problems of agriculture are Nation-wide and so complex that they can't be solved without government control or regulation.
- 16-B. (a) The economic problems of agriculture must be solved by government control and regulation which will directly affect individual farmers.
(b) Such control and regulation should be
(1) both planned and administered by counties, committees on which local farmers are represented.
(2) planned by such county committees and administered by professional government employees.
- 17-A. The State and Federal Governments should sponsor a movement to introduce schools similar to the Danish folk schools.
- 17-B. The same.
- 18-A. People living on land that should be returned to forests should be forced to evacuate these lands if they are compensated on the basis of a fair economic appraisal.
- 18-B. After land utilization experts in the United States Department of Agriculture have determined that a given area of land should, in the interests of the best usage of the land, be returned to forests, all persons who are not needed in the reforestation program should be forced to evacuate these lands provided they are compensated on the basis of a fair economic appraisal.
- 19-A. One of the great tasks before the Nation during the next 25 years is to check the present drift toward farm tenancy and turn it into a trend which will gradually restore the ownership of farms to those who till the soil.
- 19-B. (a) Same as above.
(b) The Government should make available more funds to assist owners to reduce their mortgages than it makes available to assist tenants to become owners.

- 20-A. There are traits peculiar to rural culture which, because of their value as a stabilizing influence, should be retained at almost any cost.
- 20-B. There are traits peculiar to rural culture which should be retained at almost any cost.
- 21-A. The simpler living of farm people has always been the backbone of civilization and therefore the Nation should seek to maintain as large a portion as possible of its citizens on farms even though it means the foregoing of the higher material standards of living which they might have by moving to the city or by more completely urbanizing rural life.
- 21-B. (a) The simple living of farm people has always made them the backbone or the stabilizing influences of civilizations in times of crises.
(b) The Nation should seek to maintain as large a portion as possible of its citizens on farms even though such a policy might mean foregoing of the higher material standards of living which some might have by moving to the cities.
(c) The farm people should be induced to keep their rural customs, traditions and ways of life.
(d) Farm people should be insulated against the effect of such urban influences as tend to change rural customs and beliefs.
- 22-A. Through the Extension Service, the farmer should be taught to better enjoy non-work activities such as community singing, drama production, and other modes of community recreation.
- 22-B. (a) Through the Extension Service, the farmer should be taught to better enjoy non-work activities such as community singing, drama production, and other modes of community recreation.
(b) If farm incomes are sufficiently high the farm people will themselves, without outside assistance, establish means of satisfying, and will satisfy their needs for non-material culture.
- 23-A. In the future the Colleges of Agriculture will develop knowledge of, and exercise leadership in, the social life of farm people as they have in the past in the fields of production and farm management.
- 23-B. In the future the Colleges of Agriculture should develop knowledge of, and exercise leadership in, the social life of farm people just as in the past they have developed knowledge of and exercised leadership in the fields of production and farm management.

24-A. As the agricultural activities of the Federal Government increase, the activities of the Colleges of Agriculture will decrease.

24-B. As the agricultural activities of the Federal Government increase, the colleges of agriculture will be increasingly dominated by the Federal agencies.

25-A. Mechanization tends to promote large-scale farming units which under certain conditions destroys existing rural culture. Cooperative farming offers a way to preserve existing rural culture. (Not included in the above analysis.)

25-B. (a) Mechanization tends to promote large-scale farming units which tends to destroy the rural culture that existed previously.

(b) Cooperative farming offers a method of preventing destruction of rural culture due to mechanization. (Not included in the above analysis.)

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Farm Laborers with Social Security Numbers

Many harvest workers have recently had non-agricultural employment. This is indicated by a survey which found that Social Security numbers were reported by 3 out of 8 farm laborers interviewed in a survey of harvest labor in North Dakota during the summer of 1938. Only 1 in 8 of male farm family workers and year or season hands had obtained Social Security numbers, but 1 in 3 of the local harvest laborers and 3 out of 5 transient laborers had such numbers. Many of the latter reported that their principal occupations were in covered industries, in which assignment of numbers was obligatory.

Type of laborers interviewed on farms	:	Total interviewed	:	Percent with S. S. numbers
Male laborers related to employers	:	874	:	12
Female laborers related to employers	:	158	:	1
Laborers hired by year or crop season	:	139	:	12
Local harvest laborers	:	492	:	36
Transient harvest laborers	:	373	:	58
Exchange laborers	:	116	:	9
Total	:	2152	:	25

In addition to the workers interviewed on farms, 1,140 workers were interviewed at public and private employment agencies, railroad freight yards, "jungles", and other places where transient workers congregated. Of these, 64 percent reported Social Security numbers.

The agencies cooperating in the survey were the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Farm Security Administration, and the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station.

Standards of Living 1/

"Standards of Living in an Indian-Mexican Village and on a Reclamation Project" (1) might be called a study in contrasts. On the one hand is depicted the level of living in a typical Indian-Mexican village of farm laborers whose material level of living is probably the lowest ever reported for rural America. Moreover, "the traditional non-material culture of the Indian-Mexican farm laborer in the valley of the Rio Grande is as frayed as his ragged clothes." On the other hand the level of living of a group of well-to-do farmers on the Klamath Falls Irrigation Project in eastern Oregon and California is described as being characterized by high urban non-material standards and the absence of typical rural non-material cultural traits. The total value of living of all goods and services consumed by the families of the first group was \$347, 55 percent of which was expended for food; that of the second group was \$2,843, 30 percent of which was for food. Adding to this disparity is the fact that the average household of the first group had 5.5 full-time residents as compared with 4.4 in the second. In the first group there were 18 families having total values of living ranging from \$100 to \$300. Their households averaged 4.4 full-time residents who allocated 60 percent of their respective incomes for food.

"Standards of Living in the Great Lakes Cut-Over Area" (2) portrays the material living conditions of 850 open-country and 122 village families living in 10 counties of Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan during 1935. For the open-country families the total value of all goods and services consumed for family-living purposes was \$1,031, 60 percent of which was purchased. For the village families these figures were \$851 and 89 percent respectively. The study indicates a back-to-farming movement between 1930 and 1935, and presents data relative to geographical mobility, educational status, reading material in the homes, and other items and categories which constitute the level of living of the families in the two groups.

"An Analysis of 70,000 Rural Rehabilitation Families" (3) is based upon records of 30,000 Federal Emergency Relief Administration clients who were considered for rehabilitation in 1934, records of 20,000 applicants for rehabilitation in Arkansas in 1935, 16,200 farm plans of rehabilitation clients in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Wyoming, Montana, and Colorado for 1936, and approximately 3,000 questionnaires containing information relative to progress and plans of rehabilitation families living in 8 widely separated types of farming areas in 1936. These separate analyses indicate that the rehabilitation clients were for the most part middle-aged tenant farmers who had relatively high mobility, low educational status, large families, and were living "on economic levels that are below the minimum for decent standards of living." However, the data indicate "a likelihood that the program may perhaps veer in the direction of neglecting too many families at extremely low levels for preferences among those above them. The latter generally are better prospects for meeting loan obligations and more responsive to supervision, but they may be less in need than some of the others."

1/ Complete citations will be found in the bibliography, beginning on page 28.

Consumer Incomes

According to a study made by the National Resources Committee, "Consumer Incomes in the United States," (22) the annual income of the average farm family for the fiscal year 1935-36 was \$1,259 as compared with \$1,289 for wage-earning families, about \$4,200 for families of the salaried business group, and about \$6,700 for the families of the independent professional group. The average (mean) farm-family income was \$1,259 as compared with \$2,704 for the metropolis.

Only 27 percent of the non-relief farm families had incomes as high as \$1,450, whereas of the non-relief families in the professional group, in the business and clerical group, and in the wage-earning group, about 80, 63, and 35 percent respectively had incomes as high as \$1,450 and are in the upper one-third for the Nation. Income includes "the total net money incomes received during the year by all members of the economic family..... plus the money value of the occupancy of owned homes and of rent received as pay and - for rural families - of home-grown food and other farm products used by the family."

The study is based primarily upon income data from field interviews with 274,000 families made in a nation-wide study of consumer purchases. Incomes of Negro and white families, of families in different regions, and of families of four sizes are given, as well as incomes of individuals living within and outside institutions.

Rural Youth

"Situations, Problems, and Interests of Unmarried Rural Young People, 16-25 Years of Age" (29) is the title of an Arkansas Extension Service publication based upon field interviews made during 1936 with 223 rural youth in a block sample area in the delta land and an area in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains. Through this study, as in the case of 6 others conducted in Connecticut, (4), Iowa, Maryland (12), Oregon, South Carolina, and Utah, the Extension Service hoped to orient its program for the young people in the "in-between" period after they leave 4H Club work and school and before they find places in the adult activities of the communities. The findings of the Arkansas study were in most significant respects similar to those in the other States.

Only 12 percent of the out-of-school unmarried rural youth were members of an Extension Service organization. It is claimed that young people need such organizations because: 79 percent of the out-of-school young people had no organization affiliations other than those with the church and church organization; 90 percent said they would like to join with others of a similar age in forming a group to consider matters of common interest; 75 percent of the out-of-school young men indicated "farmer" as their first choice of occupation; and 69 percent of the out-of-school young women indicated "homemaker" as their first occupational choice.

In all of the studies the youth reported that among important problems in their lives were "earning additional money," "getting started in a chosen vocation" or "getting additional education." However, no one can read the reports without the feeling that the thing uppermost in the minds of these youth is a yearning for association with others of their own age. Problems most frequently mentioned as being of greatest importance in their lives were "to know more young people," "developing a more attractive personality," "lack of sufficient opportunities for recreation and social life," "how to get along with people," and the like. Even a large number of those whose chief problem is "earning additional money" give as their reason "buying good clothes." This also bears out the above contention that youth are seeking association with their fellows, because most budgetary studies indicate that farm people spend most for clothes during the so-called "courting period." Many other youth, especially the women, stated that they wanted more money "for more recreational or social life" or "to establish a home of their own."

In the Arkansas areas studied, "a typical young person attended church three times a month, Sunday school twice, saw one movie, one athletic contest, went to one party, picnic, or dance, and participated in one pleasure ride by automobile. During the summer months he went swimming."

Since 1930 over 100 research projects relating to rural youth have been conducted according to a report "Status of Research Pertaining to Situations and Problems Among Rural Young People." (58) The report indicates the types of research needed to guide the youth program. "Recent Surveys Pertaining to Rural Youth" (60) is a bibliography prepared to supplement the publications, "Surveys of Youth: Finding the Facts" and "American Youth: An Annotated Bibliography." Abstracts of findings from published and unpublished projects are included.

"Agricultural Extension Work With Older Rural Youth" (59) describes existing extension organizations, their members, and their program activities, and discusses further needs and possibilities.

Families on Relief

From "A Social and Economic Study of Relief Families in Ottawa County, Oklahoma, 1934, (41) it was found that in December 1934 approximately one-half of the county's population was depending on the Emergency Relief Administration for a major portion of its living. By type of residence this relief load ranged from 64 percent of persons in the open country to 35 percent of those residing in cities. The county, representing one of the State's distress areas, was overpopulated by the World War and the post-war boom in lead and zinc mining. Almost half of the 1,511 relief households surveyed gave unemployment as the cause of their dependency. Farmers on relief were poorly equipped in land, livestock, and machinery. Old-age disabilities and limited formal education, coupled with other social weaknesses, indicated the futility of expecting many of the families to become self-supporting.

Farm Labor

"Migration of Workers" (26) is the title of the most complete compendium of existing information concerning the general problem of migratory labor known to the reviewer. Special sections are devoted to the relocation of drought refugees and displaced tenants, seasonal migration in agriculture and social problems of migrants. Special studies included are "Conditions of Migrants in Areas Studied in 1936," which deals with housing, medical service and health protection, education of the children, community attitudes, and migration; and "Conditions Among Sugar Beet Laborers' Families, 1935," which was based upon data from interviews with 946 families in Michigan, Minnesota, Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Montana sugar beet areas. Included in the report is a 46-page selected reference list.

Among the findings recorded in the general report are the following:

1. More than four-fifths of the recent migration of workers to California consisted of persons from States afflicted by drought. More than half of these migrants came from the drought States of the Great Plains, where emigration would be desirable even after the present drought comes to an end. Most of the drought migrants in California have been forced to become constant, seasonal migrants without residence in any one community.
2. The disintegration of tenancy in the cotton region of the Southeast has already forced thousands of former tenants to seek casual employment in Florida and elsewhere. Technical developments will continue to dislodge increasing numbers.

A study of "Migratory Farm Labor and the Hop Industry" (53) presents data relative to labor conditions, permanence of residence and mobility, community participation, income, financial resources, ways of hearing of and obtaining work, age, usual occupation, and educational and marital status as reported by 215 single persons and 238 family heads who were interviewed while engaged in picking hops during the 1937 harvest season in the Yakima Valley. In addition the facilities and living conditions in the camps for laborers in the hop fields are described.

Over half of the single workers and almost half of the families had lived in more than one place during the year preceding the interview. Thirty-one percent claimed permanent residence in the West Central and the Mountain States, 13 percent in California or Oregon, one-sixth in the Yakima Valley, and most of the remainder in other parts of Washington. Only about one-fourth of the heads of families considered agricultural work their usual occupation. Forty percent of the families and 12.5 percent of the single persons had received relief during the preceding year. Low wages, low financial reserves, lack of community social participation, and high mobility characterize the great mass of laborers called to the valley for the hop-picking season. Such transient labor, which tends to destroy community integration and morals, may be avoided by (1) the more widespread use of resident labor for the harvests, (2) an increase in the number of resident workers through a system of part-time industries, and (3) perfection of a mechanical hop picker.

"The Annual Employment Cycle of the Farm Labor Household" (52) is a graphic description of the proportion of time 345 farm laborers interviewed in the Yakima Valley were unemployed and the proportion of time they were engaged in agricultural and non-agricultural work monthly, both within and outside the valley, during the year beginning July 28, 1935, and ending July 25, 1936. Separate charts are included for (1) transient family heads and single workers, (2) transient women and children workers, (3) resident family heads and single workers, and (4) resident family workers. Among the significant findings are the following:

1. During the busiest season less than 75 percent of the Yakima Valley transient laborer's time is spent working.
2. During the autumn, winter, and spring months from 40 to 90 percent of his time is spent without work.
3. Except for summer and fall months, when agricultural employment predominates, transient women and children spend very little time working for wages.
4. There is a relatively high demand for non-agricultural work in September and October when the demands for hop and apple pickers are at their height. This fact makes the solution of the transient-labor problem difficult since it precludes the possibility of dovetailing seasonal agricultural and non-agricultural employment in order to reduce transiency.
5. The average daily wage for all work done by resident family heads and single workers was \$2.27 per day.
6. The average wage for the total group was \$1.82 for agricultural employment as compared with \$2.51 for non-agricultural employment. "It is likely that this differential will place poorer workmen in agricultural jobs."

Part-Time Farming

"Part-Time Farming in Six Industrial Areas in Pennsylvania" (42) "increased the family income and it furnished, for many people, a more satisfactory way of living." The average income from the 887 farms studied by field interview in 1936 was \$189 per farm. Approximately "one-half of this amount came from supplying home-grown products to the family table." The average return of labor spent on farms studied was only 12.7 cents an hour as compared with 45 cents an hour for time spent in industry. The families in that phase of the family life cycle (with operators 35 to 44 years of age) having the largest number of children available for work made the greatest incomes from part-time farming. School grades completed by the operator was correlated positively with hourly earnings from farming.

Sixty-three percent of the farmers offered no adverse criticism of part-time farming. The three major objections named by disappointed operators were high cost of and lack of conveniences, bad roads, and expensive and inconvenient transportation facilities. Church organizations, lodges, and labor unions were the only organizations supported by a significantly large proportion of the part-time farmers.

Population

The Social Science Research Council has released two bulletins dealing with problems of internal migration: "Research Memorandum on Population Redistribution Within the United States," by Rupert B. Vance (72) and "Research Memorandum on Migration Differentials," by Dorothy S. Thomas (73).

Vance focuses his attention upon population redistribution as a means of equalizing economic opportunities. He substitutes for the Malthusian concept of general population pressure the concept of pressure in certain regions and social-occupational groups. He evaluates indices for delimiting areas of population pressure and examines the role of differential population increase. Present knowledge on these subjects is summarized in a set of general "Propositions" with their "Corollaries." Important problems on which information is incomplete or lacking are abstracted in a set of "Queries," for the solution of which "Projects" are drafted roughly.

Thomas is primarily concerned with the differences between migrants and non-migrants. She treats not only differentials of economic importance but also those that are more exclusively biological, psychological, and social. Differentials in motivation and assimilation are regarded as especially significant although they are the most difficult to define and measure. Five outstanding studies of differential migration are analyzed with reference to a common outline. Appendices give annotated bibliographies and treat the approaches used in similar research in Germany and Sweden.

"Replacement Requirements of Gainful Workers in Agriculture in Ohio, 1930-1940" (40) will be only 54.3 percent of the rural farm males arriving at the age of 20, ranging from 46.6 to 60.1 for the subregions of the State. This figure was arrived at by: (1) estimating the number of gainful workers, aged 20 years or over in 1930 and engaged in agriculture, that will be lost to the industry through death or retirement for the decade 1930-1940; (2) estimating the number of rural-farm males that will live to reach the age of 20 years during the same decade, and who may therefore be regarded as potential workers in agriculture; (3) estimating the proportion of these potential gainful workers that will be required to exactly replace those aged 20 or over or who are lost through death or retirement. "Areas of high agricultural income can use a larger proportion of the locally reared males in the industry without expanding the man-power. Areas of low income and high birth rates can use fewer than half of the locally reared males. These differentials suggest that some variation in educational policy among the sub-areas is desirable. It seems plausible that training for non-agricultural vocations should receive greater emphasis in the areas of low agricultural income and high birth rates than in the areas of high income and low or moderate birth rates. In view of the heavy emigration of youth that has characterized the areas of high income in the past, perhaps these areas have emphasized education of the non-agricultural sort to a degree which should not be maintained in the future."

Land Tenure

"The Iowa Farm Tenancy Committee's Summary of Findings" (34) summarizes a total of 100 county hearings and one State-wide hearing on farm tenancy, held in Des Moines in January 1938.

It is estimated that 8,500 people attended these hearings, an average of 85 persons each. Nearly 4,000 carefully filled out questionnaires and a vast amount of factual evidence in the form of hearing reports, briefs and letters resulted. At each meeting a morning was devoted to a discussion of two questions; (a) what is wrong with our farm tenancy situation? and (b) what could be done about it? A careful record was made of pertinent points in all statements by individuals or groups of representatives, including names, tenure status, and occupations of the speaker. An afternoon was devoted to a discussion of a "short questionnaire" containing 8 questions. After each question was discussed it was answered. This resulted in 3,096 usable questionnaires. Thereafter a "long questionnaire" including 40 questions was circulated. These were to be taken home, filled out, and returned. Of these, 664 were returned in usable form.

Over three-fourths of the people filling out the short schedule "believe that both tenancy and heavily mortgaged ownership have an exploitative effect upon the land, and are unfavorable to the development of farms and family life, the community, and cooperative organizations." In the case of both questionnaires, slightly over half the returns were from farm tenants, and only 2 percent were from neither landlord nor tenant. Ninety-four percent of the persons returning the "long questionnaire" answered "yes" to the question "Would average renter take better care of soil and improvements if his tenure were more secure?" The report states that it can be said without exaggeration that these long questionnaires reflect the sentiment of the best judgment in Iowa. The publication includes a summary of the County Agricultural Planning Committee Reports relative to farm tenancy. Many State maps are made from these reports. For example, there is a map based upon the question "What percentage of tenants in your community plan to own a farm some day?"

Rural Social Sub-Areas

A preliminary report on the delineation of areas and sub-areas within the rural-farm population was prepared in mimeographed form by the Social Research Section of the Works Progress Administration and submitted to approximately 200 sociologists, anthropologists, population experts, and administrators for comments and criticisms. While few suggestions on techniques were offered, helpful criticisms of boundary lines were made and tentative names for many of the units were received.

The work of delineating areas within the rural-nonfarm population is now well advanced. Independently of the rural-farm areas, 173 nonfarm areas have been delimited tentatively and are being restudied to determine final boundaries. In delineating these areas the proportion of gainful workers

engaged in mechanical manufacturing and nonagricultural extractive industries, the plane-of-living index, and the population fertility ratio, have been used as basic criteria. Many of the areas are small and consist of isolated rural-industrial communities or are areas under the dominance of large urban centers. Others consist of large cut-over areas, mining areas, and manufacturing districts.

The farm and nonfarm areas are being compared in an endeavor to bring the two series into harmony and to establish boundaries of homogeneous rural areas and sub-areas for the farm and nonfarm population combined.

EXTENSION REPORTS

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County Program Planning in Virginia

At a meeting of the administrative officers, district supervisors, and subject-matter specialists of the Agricultural Extension Service in Virginia, it was agreed that the State-wide program of combined group discussion and county agricultural program planning should be conducted throughout the State during the coming year with chief emphasis placed on the further development of county boards of agriculture and the community committees of which they are largely composed; the furtherance of community discussions relating to social and economic problems of rural life in the respective communities of the State; and the development of more comprehensive and exact analysis of land-use and soil management affecting the stability and adequacy of rural life in Virginia. While the work is nominally under the leadership of the Extension Sociologist of the State, it is actually adopted by the whole Extension Service as a major basis of procedure affecting the work, not only of the Extension Service as a whole but of all other agencies dealing with agriculture throughout Virginia. The Extension activities and "action programs" are substantially based upon an extensive program of research developed in cooperation with the Works Progress Administration as a counterpart of the program-planning activities.

Rural Recreation in Wisconsin

The program of recreation, including the fields of drama and music, which for ten years has been a phase of the Rural Sociology Extension program in Wisconsin, is now being greatly expanded. The Works Progress Administration, after considerable experimenting, is now launching an aggressive program in rural areas, using both paid and volunteer leadership. Most of the urban centers, of 2,500 population up, have recreation programs of their own, so most of this State-wide emphasis and the work of the staff of 800 paid workers is being directed to rural areas.

Extension Activities in Illinois

A Young Adult Camp which was set up with the assistance of the Illinois Christian Youth Council, rural-youth groups, rural-life clubs of State Teachers College, Catholic youth groups, National Youth Administration, Illinois Home Bureau Federation, Illinois Agricultural Association, and other similar groups has recently been held. Ten courses were offered on: personality development; preparing for your life work; social hygiene; how customs, habits and ideals grow; how world forces affect us; foundations for successful home and family life; making your vocation count; working in and with groups; government in community life; and continuing education in community life. Special interests in art, athletics, crafts, photography, drama, first aid, music, newspaper, nature study, and party and folk games were carried on. Special assemblies were also provided on: how leaders are developed; community services; occupations of today; the world situation; and the story of brotherhood and culture.

The Extension Service cooperated with the Illinois Church Council in sponsoring a series of four district conferences on "Farm Family Life and the Rural Church." This is a part of a project in Rural Sociology Extension to bring closer relationships between the rural church and the Extension Service and to provide rural churches with information and benefits which will help improve their extra church activities.

The State-wide music and drama tournament in Illinois is being carried out on the tryout basis with no contests as such in any part of the festival. The Extension Service is providing for a series of Music and Drama Clinics at six points of the State to which play groups and music groups may send their members for instruction previous to their county productions.

DIVISIONAL AND STATE NEWS

Division Notes

One of the major activities of The Division of Farm Population and Rural Life during the year is to carry on studies of the social aspects of the Land Utilization Program of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. For this purpose 5 sociologists have been added to the Division Staff and stationed in the following offices of the Land Utilization Regions: Francis D. Cronin, Lincoln, Nebraska; Olaf F. Larson, Amarillo, Texas; J. Edwin Losey, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Walter C. McKain, New Haven, Connecticut; John B. Holt, Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. Maurice Parmelee in the Washington Office will assist in the direction of their work, which will include studies of trends and composition of the population, standards of living, the social consequences of land-use adjustments, characteristics of problem areas and the characteristics of residents of project areas, discovery and analysis of areas of heavier settlement, and a study of the pattern of settlement which can be maintained as a relatively long-time stable culture. It is planned that these men in the Regional Offices will cooperate closely with Rural Sociologists at Agricultural Experiment Stations in the development of their projects.

"Community Buildings for Farm Families" (9) is the title of Farmers ' Bulletin No. 1804, prepared by Blanche Halbert, formerly associated with the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life. The purpose of this bulletin is to acquaint rural communities that need these buildings with successful building programs in other places so that they may profit by the experience of others. It points out that a recent trend in community-building planning is the many-use building that is designed for business, civic, social, recreational, and sometimes educational activities - all under one roof. The value of the community building is greater than the housing of a community's activities. From the very beginning, the problems of its financing, its planning, its construction, become the people's project and bring many groups together, working for the same purpose - for the good of a community.

A detailed study of what has been happening to rural youth since 1929 has been set up by the Division of Social Research of the Works Progress Administration. Provisions are being made for separate analyses of the adjustments of youth who have migrated to the cities from rural territory, the adjustments of youth who have remained in agricultural and rural-industrial areas, crime in the cities with special reference to rural youth, and the background situation in the rural counties surveyed. An additional phase of the study will deal with youth remaining in suburban areas and those who have migrated to cities from such areas. For comparative purposes some data will also be secured for urban youth who have never lived in rural territory.

Materials have been assembled which constitute a comprehensive report on the scope and functioning of the cooperative plan for Rural Research in the 41 States in which it has operated. The general statement summarizes the scope, organization, and results of the program as a whole. In addition a separate report is being prepared for each State in which local projects and State publications are reviewed.

An Index of Research Projects, conducted by Federal and State relief agencies, has been issued by the Works Progress Administration. This volume contains entries for 2,635 projects, classified by subjects, abstracting reports of completed projects and describing those for which summaries are not available. A second volume in preparation will contain similar information on projects sponsored or supervised by regional, State, and local planning agencies.

Final results of the Census of Partial Employment, Unemployment, and Occupations have been released in four volumes. The first three volumes summarize by States and Geographic Divisions the data showing race, sex, age, occupation, number of dependents, number of other workers in the family, residence on farm, number of weeks worked during 12 months prior to the registration, and hours worked and income received during the week November 7-13, 1937. Reports show totally and partly unemployed separately. Volume IV presents the results of the enumerative check census, which were secured by a house-to-house canvass of a sample of postal routes throughout the

country. In addition to checking on the results of the voluntary registration, this check census gives an employment picture of the entire population included in the sample areas. Tables showing employment in rural and urban areas and by farm and non-farm residence are included. Five methodological appendices are included.

State Notes

In an attempt to define the cultural background of rural people in Wisconsin, the Department of Rural Sociology at the College of Agriculture is making a detailed study of the nationalities that make up the State. A State population census of a generation ago is being used to delimit nationality areas. Field work is being conducted currently to verify the present nationality patterns. It is being assumed that nationality is a good index of culture, but all available social data, in addition to nationality, are being compiled to formulate the culture areas of Wisconsin. Although the original census schedules have been retabulated on a township basis, current field work ignores township lines and tries to place exact limits around any distinct nationality groups. The data of this study will be used for a sociological-historical monograph on the People of Wisconsin: their settlement history; their contribution to the total culture of the State; the qualitative changes in the composition of the State's population; and the present existing culture configurations.

Ralph Loomis, for two years Extension specialist in charge of group discussion, has joined the staff in Rural Sociology at the University of Missouri in the capacity of Extension Specialist.

A study dealing with the rural social sub-areas of Missouri is now being completed. In the conduct of future research, it is planned to use these sub-areas as a basis for sampling. A manuscript dealing with rural-population mobility in the cotton lowlands of southeast Missouri is now being edited for publication.

Through cooperation with the Rural Research Unit of the Works Progress Administration, the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station is beginning a study of the effects upon the rural family and to some extent the rural community of the depression crisis and subsequent efforts, Federal, State, and local to relieve distress and to rehabilitate families. Emphasis will be placed on developing techniques to measure changes in internal family organization as well as the changes in the community relations of the family. It is planned to use sociometric scales already available as far as they can be adapted. The study will be limited to the families in a small trade center out of a 1,000 population and its immediate environs. F. Howard Forsyth, graduate student, has been named assistant rural-research supervisor to conduct the study. He will spend a good deal of time in the community, where he can make continuous observations as a "participant observer."

Using the State directories and the American Medical Association directory, a study is being undertaken to determine the characteristics, distribution, and mobility of physicians in rural and urban centers of Minnesota.

The Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service has invited the Division of Rural Sociology to cooperate on a study of the effectiveness of the Rural Youth Clubs which have been sponsored in Minnesota for the past three years. Schedules will be filled out for all members of the Clubs in two counties. Control groups will consist of all non-member youths of comparable age in the two counties.

Field work on a new project entitled, "Arizona Farm Leases Under Irrigation," was begun in September, 1938, under the direction of E. D. Tetreau, and George W. Barr. It is aimed to study the sociological and economic aspects of farm leasing under irrigation to find principles which when applied to Arizona agriculture will result in the conservation of people, water, and land. Records of the Agricultural Conservation offices, the Federal reclamation projects, and the State irrigation districts will be the principal sources of information, whereas case study of individual leasing arrangements will constitute an important part of the project.

Another new project on the earnings and living of day workers and piece workers on Arizona irrigated farms was begun during September. Cotton weight books have been printed and distributed among a number of Arizona cotton producers so as to provide carbon copies of the records of amounts of cotton picked by individuals and by families during the current picking season. Together with records of rates of pay per 100 pounds of seed cotton, these records will afford a basis for arriving at the amount earned by pickers in Arizona cotton fields the season of 1938. Data on the content of living will be gathered as well.

With the cooperation of the Works Progress Administration and the Farm Security Administration, studies of recent changes in farm tenancy and farm labor are under way in Texas, under the direction of C. Horace Hamilton. The relation of recent farm mechanization and crop control to the problems being studied is being given special attention. This study will cover approximately 450 large-scale farms and plantations located in 26 different counties where cotton is the major farm enterprise. In addition to a record of mechanization and farm-organization changes on these large farms, approximately 500 records covering the status, mobility, employment, housing, incomes, and related data on farm laborers and their families will be obtained.

The State College of Washington has set up a Graduate School of Social Work, which will give particular attention to the training of rural social workers. Professor A. A. Smick, offering undergraduate courses dealing with rural social work and rural community organization, has been transferred to the new School of Social Work where he will give instruction in these phases of rural sociology on the graduate level.

Under the leadership of Dr. Hypes, the Department of Sociology at Connecticut State College, is making a study of Social Factors Related to Soil Erosion in the Scantic River Valley. This is part of a larger study of the area, including erosion surveys and studies of farm types.

The report on The Agricultural Labor Situation in the United States, made by Lowry Nelson to the Permanent Agricultural Committee of the International Labor Office, is published in the issue of the International Labor Review for June 1938.

Miss Amy A. Gessner at Cornell University, formerly on the extension staff in rural sociology at the University of Wisconsin, has been engaged in a restudy of the migration to and from Belleville, New York, which was written up by Miss Emily Hoag in her bulletin published by the United States Department of Agriculture "The National Influence of a Single Farm Community." The present study is planned to throw light on the problem of selective migration, and is being made with the cooperation of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life.

In 1929, the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station decided to add a rural sociologist to a staff of other specialists studying an irrigation and drainage district which was meeting with financial difficulties. Some of the findings show: Although the area itself is highly disorganized in economic matters, many families are thriving. The relatively high average level of living is sustained not because the farms are yielding a true net income, but because the farmers, having become discouraged, have ceased to pay normal farm expenses including taxes, interest, and installments on bond indebtedness, mortgage indebtedness, et cetera, and gross farm earnings are used for family living. A much larger portion of the non-Mormon population moved out of the area when conditions became unfavorable. Mobility was greatly lessened by a "blanket" bond liability which made it impossible for a farmer to isolate his farm from the general bond liability. Substantial new school houses, gymnasiums, recreation buildings, and rodeo parks continue to be built largely through the use of outside funds. Meeting-house building programs, while retarded by the depression in places, have been continued in others. Community assets, dependent wholly on local support for extension and renewal, reflect the generally unfavorable conditions which dominate the area.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS
Reviewed and Received

Federal

- (1) "Standards of Living in an Indian-Mexican Village and on a Reclamation Project," by C. P. Loomis and O. E. Leonard, Soc. Res. Rept. No. XIV, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Aug. 1938, 49 pp.
- (2) "Standards of Living in the Great Lakes Cut-Over Area," by C. P. Loomis, Joseph J. Lister, and Dwight M. Davidson, Jr., Soc. Res. Rept. No. XIII, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Sept. 1938, 63 pp.
- (3) "An Analysis of 70,000 Rural Rehabilitation Families," by E. L. Kirkpatrick, Soc. Res. Rept. No. IX, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Aug. 1938, 93 pp.
- (4) "Situations, Problems, and Interests of Unmarried Rural Young People, 16-25 Years of Age: Survey of Five Connecticut Townships, 1934," by A. J. Brundage and M. C. Wilson, Ext. Serv. Circ. No. 417, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., April 1936, 47 pp.
- (5) "Participation in Home-Economics Extension and Effectiveness of the Program: A Study of 210 Rural Families in Spokane and Skagit Counties, Washington, 1936," by Gladys Gallup and M. Elmina White, Ext. Serv. Circ. 285, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., June 1938, 54 pp.
- (6) "Resume of Experience in County Agricultural Planning," Ext. Serv., U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., 15 pp.
- (7) "Food Consumption of Children at the National Child Research Center," by Helen Nebeker Hann and Hazel K. Stiebeling, Circ. No. 481, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Aug. 1938, 34 pp.
- (8) "Forests and Employment in Germany," by W. N. Sparhawk, Forest Service, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., July 1938, 52 pp.
- (9) "Community Buildings for Farm Families," by Blanche Halbert, Farmers' Bull. No. 1804, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Sept. 1938, 40 pp.
- (10) "Income Parity for Agriculture: Part III.- Prices Paid by Farmers for Commodities and Services; Section 1.- Medical Service Rates to Farmers, 1910-14, 1924-29, 1932, and 1935-36," U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C., Aug. 1938, pp. ii and 27.
- (11) "Organizations and Programs for Rural Young People," by Barnard D. Joy, Ext. Serv. Circ. 273, Cooperative Extension Work in Agr. and Home Econ., Washington, D. C., Nov. 1937, 41 pp.
- (12) "Situations, Problems, and Interests of Unmarried Rural Young People, 16-25 Years of Age: Survey of five Maryland Counties, 1936," by Barnard D. Joy, and T. B. Manny, Ext. Serv. Circ. 269, Cooperative Extension Work in Agr. and Home Econ., Washington, D. C., Aug. 1937, 31 pp.

- (13) "Statistical Measurements of 4-H Club Work With Special Reference to 1936," by Barnard D. Joy, Ext. Serv. Circ. 270, Oct. 1937, 18 pp.
- (14) "Trends in Size and Production of the Aggregate Farm Enterprise, 1909-36," by Raymond G. Bressler, Jr. and John A. Hopkins, Rept. No. A-6, National Research Project, WPA, Philadelphia, Pa., July 1938, pp. xvi and 255.
- (15) "Changes in Technology and Labor Requirements in Crop Production: Cotton," by William C. Holley, and Lloyd E. Arnold, Rept. No. A-7, National Research Project, WPA, Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 1938, pp. xvi and 132.
- (16) "Changes in Technology and Labor Requirements in Crop Production: Corn," by Loring K. Macy, Lloyd E. Arnold, and Eugene G. McKibben, Rept. No. A-5, National Research Project, WPA, Philadelphia, Pa., June 1938, pp. xviii and 181.
- (17) "Index of Research Projects; Volume I." WPA, Washington, D. C., 1938, 291 pp.
- (18) "The National Youth Administration," by Palmer O. Johnson and Oswald L. Harvey, Staff Study No. 13, U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1938, 121 pp.
- (19) "Report on Economic Conditions of the South," U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C., July 1938, 64 pp.
- (20) "Library Service," by Carleton B. Joeckel, Staff Study No. 11, Prepared for the Advisory Committee on Education, U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1938, pp. viii and 107.
- (21) "Recreational Use of Land in the United States," Supplementary Report, Part XI, Land Planning Committee, U. S. National Resources Board, U. S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 280 pp., maps.
- (22) "Consumer Incomes in the United States: Their Distribution in 1935-36," by the National Resources Committee, Washington, D. C., Aug. 1938, 104 pp.
- (23) "An Indexed Bibliography of the Tennessee Valley Authority Supplement January-June, 1938," compiled by Harry C. Bauer, Office of the Director of Information, TVA, Knoxville, 1938, 19 pp.
- (24) "Cooperative Purchasing of Farm Supplies in Mississippi," by John H. Lister and Gerald M. Francis, Bull. No. 22, Cooperative Division, FCA, Washington, D. C., 1938.
- (25) "Retail Prices of Food, 1923-36," by Retail Price Division (Stella Stewart, chief) and Cost of Living Division (Faith M. Williams, chief), Bull. No. 635, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D. C.
- (26) "Migration of Workers," Preliminary Report of the Secretary of Labor, U. S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D. C., 1938, 204 pp.

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Iowa

(33) "The Role of the Land-Grant College in Governmental Agricultural Programs," Iowa State College, Ames, June 20, 1938, 14 pp.

(34) "The Iowa Farm Tenancy Committee's Summary of Findings," Iowa State Planning Board, May 1938, 282 pp.

Missouri

(35) "Types of Farming in Missouri," by Conrad T. Hammar, Walter J. Roth, and O. R. Johnson, Research Bull. No. 284, Mo. Agr. Exp. Sta., Columbia, May 1938, 100 pp.

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Nebraska

(37) "Summary of Nebraska Home Account Records, 1929-1938," by Muriel Smith and Clara M. Newlee, Ext. Circ. 11-116, Univ. of Nebr. Agr. Ext. Serv. and U. S. Dept. of Agr. cooperating, Lincoln, May 1938, 16 pp.

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- (45) "Land Use Problems in Crockett County, Tennessee," by C. E. Allred and Paul T. Sant, Rur. Res. Mono. No. 72, Coll. of Agr., Univ. of Tenn., Knoxville, June 1, 1938, 43 pp.
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- (52) "The Annual Employment Cycle of the Farm Labor Household," by Paul H. Landis and Richard Wakefield, Rur. Soc. Series in Farm Labor, No. 2, State Coll. of Wash., Agr. Exp. Sta., Pullman, July 1938, 24 pp.
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